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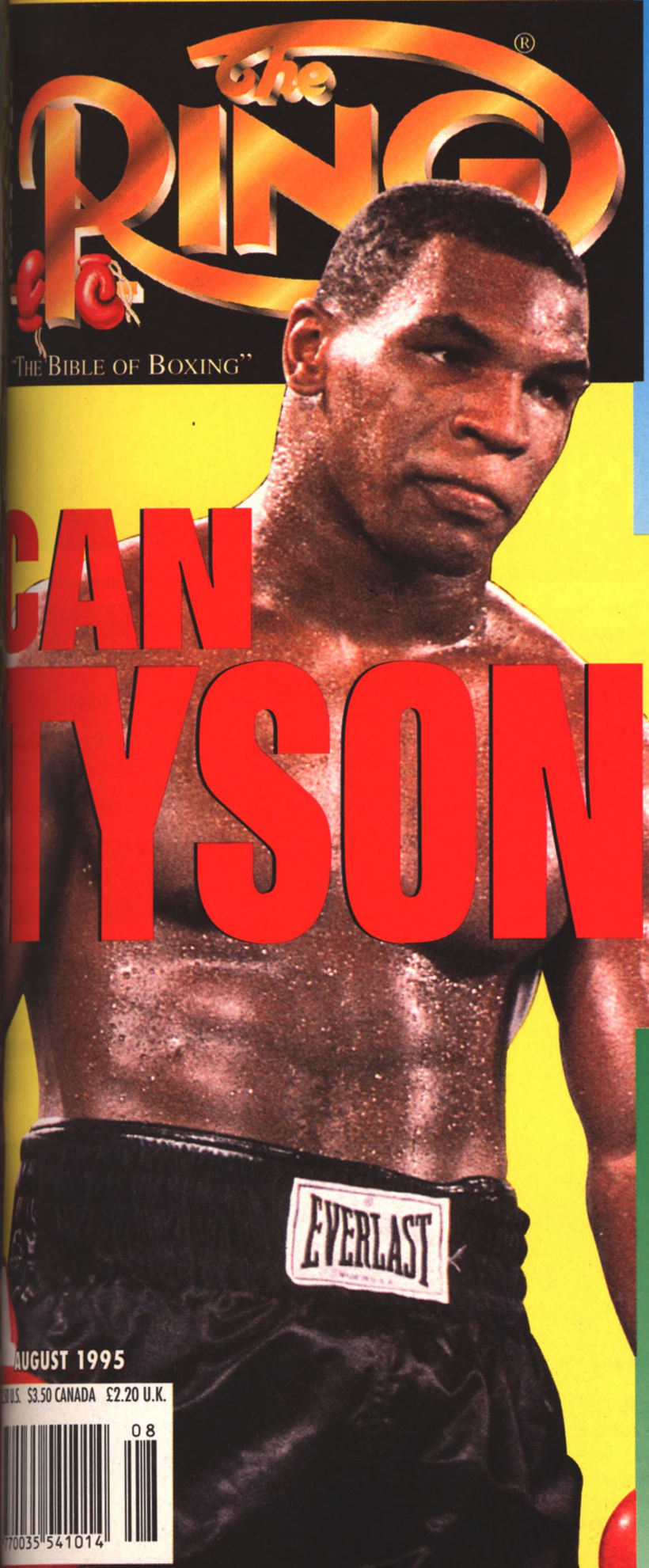
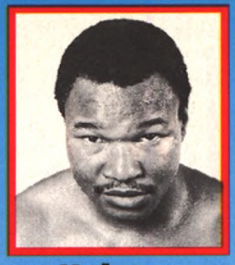


CAN TYSON GO FROM GREAT TO ALL-TIME GREAT?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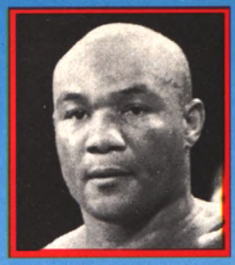
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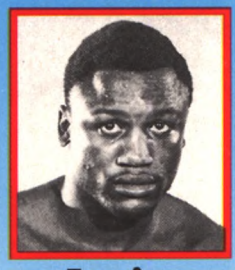
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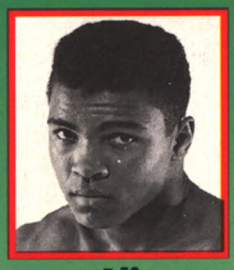
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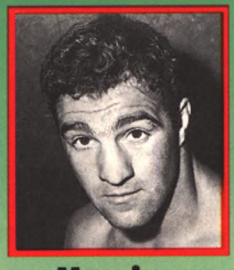
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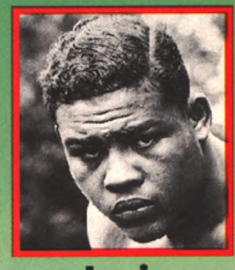
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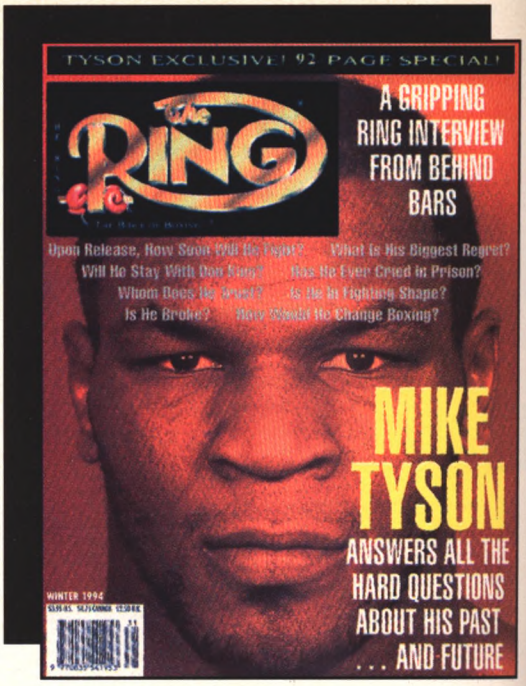

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RINGSIDE

I don't care if Larry Holmes is 45 or 75; I refuse to write about his retirement because I no longer believe it when a fighter says goodbye. Maybe that's because the last 23 fighters who have bid adieu adid come back.

I will, however, write about the heavyweight division because judging by what people are talking about, that's all that matters. All the excitement has been generated either by Mike Tyson's return or Larry Donald's technical draw against Dave Dixon, I'm just not sure which.

Since fans seem to be taking all the ratings and champions and title fights far too seriously, I've elected to have some fun. Let's say I were the Boss of Boxing. The first thing I'd do would be to organize a 16-fighter tournament to clear up the heavyweight picture. The entrants:

Henry Akinwande, because tradition dictates the inclusion of at least one horizontal Englishman.
Riddick Bowe, because the WBA, WBC, and IBF choose to ignore him.
Frank Bruno, because Bruno Sammartino was unavailable.
Lionel Butler, because he just might knock out Lennox Lewis between the time I'm writing this and the time you're reading this.
George Foreman, because, in the upside-down world we live in, he's the most deserving entrant of all.
Jorge Luis Gonzalez, because he looks like the baddest mother on the planet.
Joe Hipp, because I couldn't justify including Frans Botha.
Evander Holyfield, because he's got more heart than anyone in the division.
Lennox Lewis, because he deserves a second (or third?) chance.
Oliver McCall, because he can't possibly be as ordinary as he looked against Holmes.
Michael Moorer, because over the years, Big George has stretched the best of 'em.
Razor Ruddock, because his appearance will save the Missing Persons Bureau a whole lotta work.
Bruce Seldon, because he saved me from having to include Tony Tucker.
Mike Tyson, because, given his lifestyle, he needs the prize money.
Tim Witherspoon, because absence makes the heart grow fonder.
Alexandr Zolkin, because I don't think Ivan Drago should rank as the prototypical Russian heavyweight.

***

The results from the round of 16:
Tyson KO 3 Akinwande: "Iron Mike" is permitted to fight on a stepladder
Zolkin W 12 Holyfield: Upset! Southpaw too busy for lethargic former champ
Gonzalez KO 5 Lewis: Upset II! Lennox makes mistake of keeping chin up
Moorer KO 6 Butler: And off the floor to do it
Foreman KO 7 Hipp: Blood, blood everywhere
Ruddock KO 4 Seldon: Razor doesn't throw a punch for three rounds, then ...
Bowe W 12 Witherspoon: But a lot closer than you might have expected
McCall KO 10 Bruno: You think I was gonna have Bruno win a big fight?

***

The quarterfinals:
Tyson KO 8 Zolkin: Speed kills
Moorer W 12 Gonzalez: Up for grabs until the championship rounds
Ruddock W 12 Foreman: Clinch, clinch, clinch; what's the plural of octopus?
Bowe KO 11 McCall: Good big man beaten by good bigger man

***

The semifinals:
Tyson KO 6 Moorer: It's not the shoes, so it must be the chin
Bowe KO 9 Ruddock: "Big Daddy" Razor-sharp with jab

***

And the final:
Bowe KO 5 Tyson: Foreman-Frazier revisited

***

One last thing: By the time the tournament runs its course, Larry Holmes should be ready to fight the winner.

Steve Farhood
Editor-in-Chief

Volume 74, No. 8 August 1995

The RING

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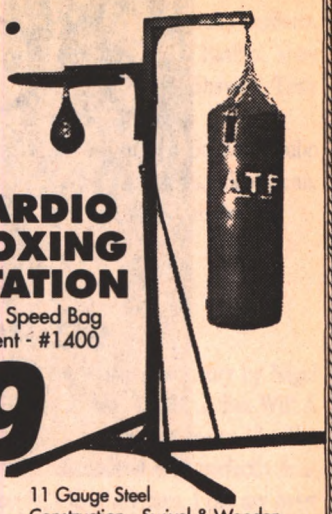

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COME OUT WRITING

We welcome your letters, which may be edited for reasons of space and clarity. Send your comments to Come Out Writing, The Ring, P.O. Box 1148, Ft. Washington, PA 19034

THE RETURN OF "IRON MIKE"

After reading Jeff Ryan's column in the April 1995 issue ("'Next Year' Is Here"), I want to make a coup of points Ryan should bear in mind. If it wasn't for the racially biased American legal system and the poor pe formances of his attorneys, Tyson would have seen justice served and would never have been locked up for crime there is little evidence to suggest he ever committed. The column was malicious and unjustified. Tyso is not a "bum," as Ryan wrote.

Despite his ordeal, Tyson will sharpen up quickly with sparring, a good diet, and a couple of tuneup fight I am eagerly awaiting his return to world title fight action. Doubtless Bowe, McCall, Lewis, Bruno, an Foreman feel the same way.

ROBERT MILLS
West Lothian, Scotland

IS ROY JONES OVERRATED?

I'm sick and tired of the praise and hype surrounding Roy Jones. All of the attention he is getting seems t be based on one performance, his thorough dismantling of a dehydrated James Toney. There is something terr bly wrong with boxing when a fighter's greatness i determined by one fight. Did Ali become great by defeat ing only Sonny Liston? Did he not also have to defeat th Fraziers, Foremans, and Nortons?

The decreasing expectations of boxing fans suggest lack of talent in the sport. Or maybe the "experts" are try ing to relive yesteryear. Wake up, fans, or your pay-per view dollars will continue to line the pockets of phonies.

ROGER FLOWE
Brooklyn, NY

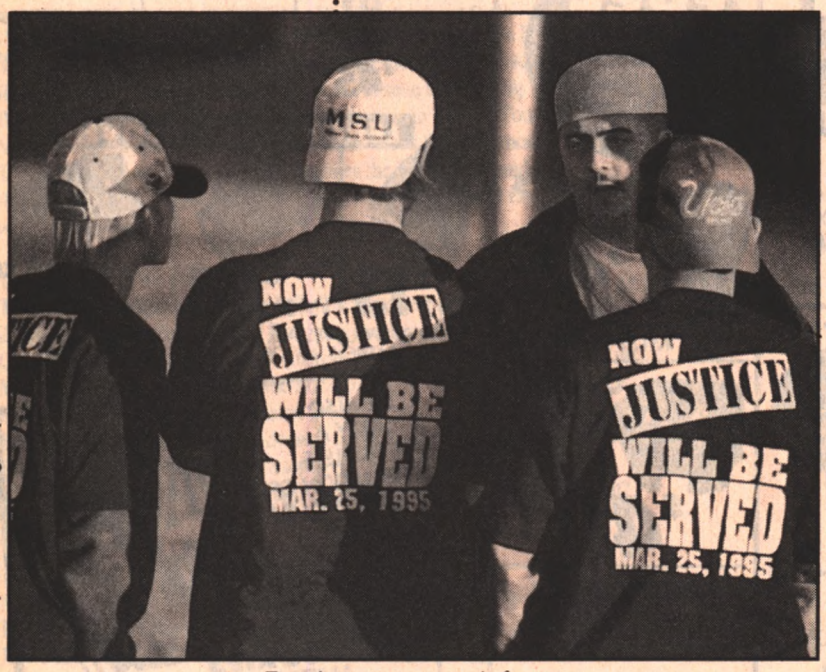


Photo by Todd Rosenberg/Allsport

Tyson's supporters remain fervent

Photo by Jack Goodman/HBO

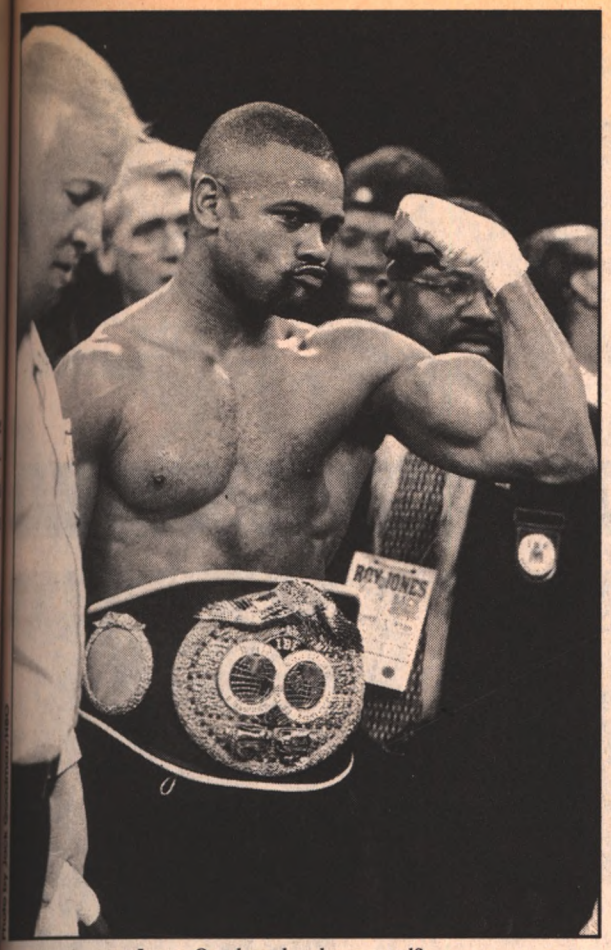
Being that I'm an Englishman, you may feel the fo lowing comments are biased. But I feel they must b expressed.

In the story on Roy Jones' victory over James Toney in your March 1995 issue ("Roy Jones Whips James Toney: The Most Dominant Big-Fight Performance In Years"), Steve Farhood wrote that "British super mi dleweights Nigel Benn and Chris Eubank are colorful, bu their recent efforts suggest they belong in the ring wit Jones as much as Michael Jordan belongs in a batter box opposite Greg Maddux."

Benn is both a fine defensive and attacking fighter who has hammered the likes of Iran Barkley, Doug DeWitt, Mauro Galvano, and Juan Carlos Gimenez. Moreover, in February (and after your story on Jones-Toney was written), he rose from the canvas to stop the ill-fated Gerald McClellan. Eubank blows hot and cold, but when on form he can do a number on many a fine boxer.

Even if Jones would defeat Benn and Eubank, I'm sure they'd give it their all. Please don't tarnish all British fighters in the same brush as Frank Bruno.

PAUL WHITCHER
Norwich, England



Jones: Overhyped and overrated?

At the risk of upsetting Steve Farhood, who appears to be the chairman of the Roy Jones Fan Club, I believe Nigel Benn would be more than capable of giving Jones *plenty* of problems. A Jones-Benn matchup is a mouthwatering prospect!

ROBERT McCOOL
Merseyside, England

DURAN: PLEASE, NO MAS!

Although I consider myself a Roberto Duran die-hard, I find I'm in agreement with Jeff Ryan's column in the May 1995 issue ("Redefining Man And Motto"): Paying to see a Duran fight is like attending the fifth wedding of an old friend. You attend out of loyalty and friendship, but you really believe you'd both be better off somewhere else.

While watching Pazienza-Duran II with a non-boxing fan, I found myself constantly talking about how great Duran was during his heyday. This cannot be a good way to attract new fans to the sport. People want to see contestants who are great *now*.

I do not begrudge Duran the opportunity to earn a living, but I believe it would be better for boxing if TV and the print media began to focus on the younger fighters.

TERRY RIZZO
Ringoes, NJ

HEART & SOUL

I suggest THE RING add a new category to your monthly ratings: "The Heart & Soul Dynamite Dozen." This list would rank the world-class gladiators who fight with blood, guts, and determination. It's reserved for fighters who would rather be carried out than counted out.

A set of rankings for the last 50 years: Vinny Pazienza, Jake LaMotta, Rocky Graziano, Rocky Marciano, Gene Fullmer, Carmen Basilio, Tony Zale, Ray Mancini, Bobby Chacon, Mike Tyson, Earnie Shavers, Tony Lopez.

Today's fighters: Pazienza, George Foreman, Chiquita Gonzalez, Julio Cesar Chavez, Michael Carbajal, Tony Lopez, Jorge Castro, Nigel Benn, Troy Dorsey, Greg Haugen, Evander Holyfield, Orlando Canizales.

MARTY JACOBS
Rohnert Park, CA

THE DEVIL'S VIEW

I just want to say thanks to THE RING for a pretty fair story by Nigel Collins in the May 1995 issue ("Paz Slams Old Man Duran ... But Will A Showdown With Roy Jones Be A Sham?"). At times it seems like I'm treated like an outlaw stepchild by boxing writers. And to be perfectly honest, I'm not sure why. I'm great to people, I love my fans, I put my heart and soul into this game, and the bottom line is *I can fight*!

The media works me up more than my opponents. I have millions of die-hard fans, and I fight for them. When boxing writers take cracks at me, their opinions are going out to people who are with me and who somewhat live through me. That's what bothers me so much. Personally, I don't care what one person thinks, but when these writers reach so many fans ... I'm sure you know what I mean.

I hate to sound vain when I say people somewhat live through me, but I have fans who are handicapped, people with disabilities, and fans who fantasize through me. I talk to these people, I write these people, I call these people, and I fight for these people. So I guess you can see why I get aggravated with some of the media's perceptions, not to mention their criticism.

The bottom line is I just want to say thanks. And by the way, I'm going to shock a lot of people when I beat Roy Jones on June 24. Don't be one of them!

VINNY PAZIENZA
Cranston, RI ■

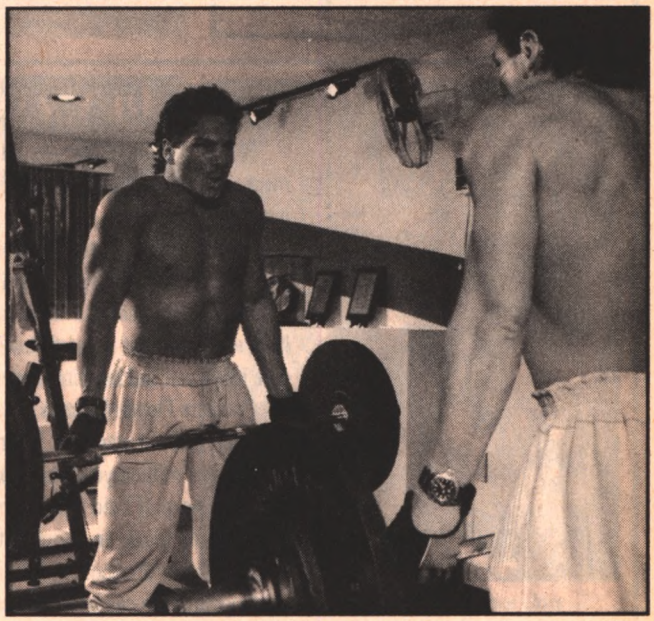


Photo by Chris Cassidy

Paz: Working for the fans

ROUND ONE

A MOST PAINFUL SPLIT

Floyd helped make Tracy a world champion

It's common knowledge that father-and-son boxing teams have had as much success as one-armed jugglers. We always hoped it would be different for Tracy and Floyd Patterson, and it was—until now.

Earlier this year, Tracy, the former WBC super bantamweight champion, told Floyd, who served as both manager and trainer, he wanted to handle his own business. Floyd took it as a supreme insult, and father and son haven't spoken since.

"I told him it was time to be my own man," said Tracy. "I wanted to take some of the pressure off him. I don't feel I did anything wrong. I still wanted him to be my trainer. He felt he didn't deserve the demotion, and it's affected our personal life because he was hurt, and so was I because he reacted the way he did. He said he'd have to think about it and that he'd get back to me. I haven't heard from him since. If I don't soon, I guess I'll give him a call and tell him I love him."

Counters Floyd, "Tracy's had 56 fights and lost only three, and he won a world title. Where am I not a good manager? I didn't start this. When he said he wanted to manage himself, that was a big slap in the face. I never thought in a million years this would ever happen. I've awakened at two, three in the morning thinking about it, unable to sleep. If I did this to someone else, I'd commit suicide."

Patterson fought in March with Tommy Parks as his trainer. He says, "The door is always open for [Floyd] to be my trainer."

Hopefully, he can be his father again, too.

–Steve Farhood

Photo by Marty Rosengarten

McClellan with trainer Stan Johnson

IN SUPPORT OF GERALD McCLELLAN

The family of former middleweight champion Gerald McClellan, who, at press time, remained in stable condition following brain surgery after his February challenge of WBC super middleweight champion Nigel Benn in London, has established a trust fund to help pay the boxer's mounting medical bills.

"Gerald's rehabilitation and medical care will be quite long and extensive, and his road to recovery will probably be a very long one," said Lisa McClellan, Gerald's sister. "We are reaching out to the boxing community for thoughts, prayers, and monetary support."

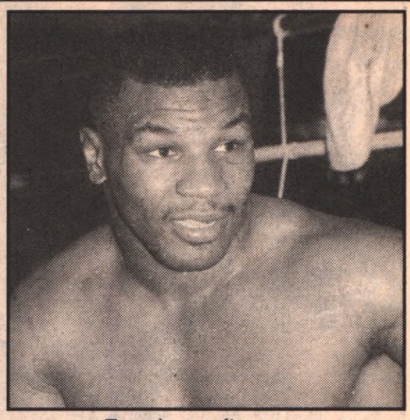
As of mid-March, McClellan was breathing about 80 percent on his own. A tracheotomy was performed on March 13 to alleviate breathing difficulties that developed when he was taken off a life-support system.

McClellan's sister told THE RING the boxer was able to move his hands upon command. On April 2, the 27-year-old McClellan was transferred from Royal London Hospital to a hospital in the Midwest. His family asked that the location not be revealed.

Anyone wishing to make a donation to the Gerald McClellan Medical Trust Fund should send a contribution care of First Bank North, P.O. Box 120, Freeport, IL 61032.

–Pete Ehrmann

THE TYSON WATCH, MONTH ONE



Tyson's spending spree

Various published facts and rumors from Mike Tyson's first month out of prison:

•While incarcerated, Tyson ate special food smuggled in by visitors, got extra phone calls, had extra visits, and had sex with an Indiana Youth Center staffer—with the understanding that upon his release, he would buy her a car.

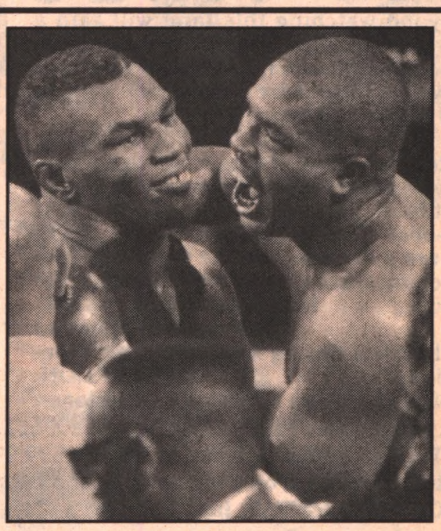
•Tyson has bought a $3.7-million home in Las Vegas. The 11,000-square foot palatial estate includes seven bedrooms, gourmet kitchen, wine cellar, exercise room, tennis court, swimming pool, and two-bedroom guest house. The garage holds only four cars. Obviously, Tyson has decided to slum it.

•Tyson has bought three Rolls-Royces and five BMWs.

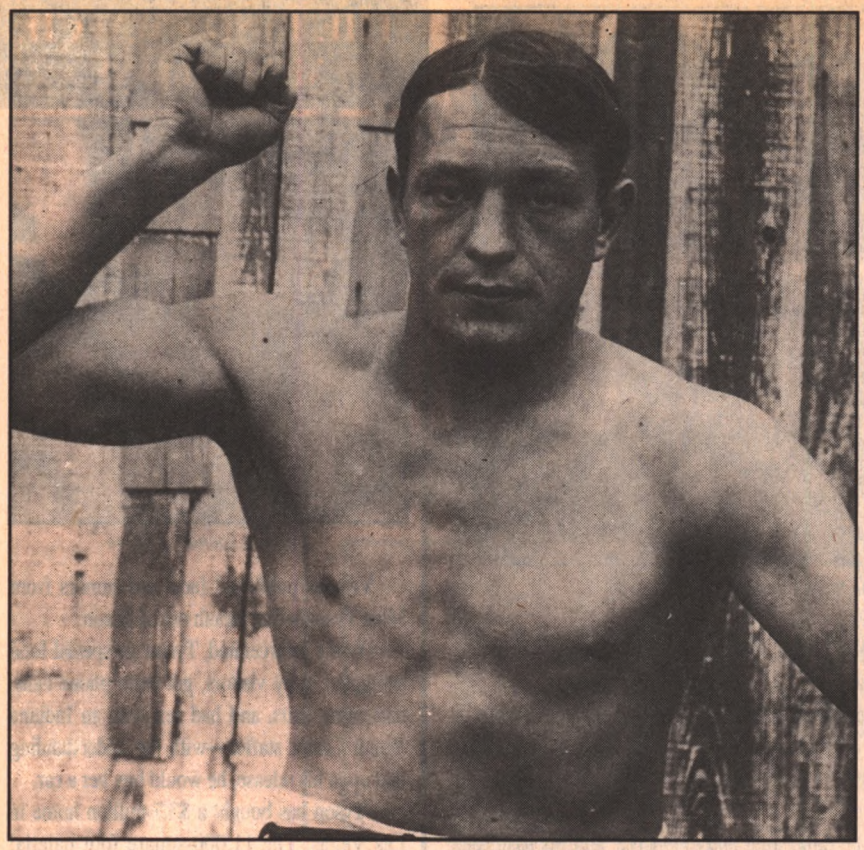
Asked to confirm these purchases, Rory Holloway, Tyson's co-manager, said, "What Mike does with his money is his business."

THE 10 THINGS MIKE TYSON *WON'T* BE DOING WITH HIS FIRST PAYCHECK

10. Sending Vincent Fuller a Vermont Teddy Bear.
9. Funding Robin Givens' next film project, *Honey, I Think I Shrunk My Husband.*
8. Chipping in so Bill Cayton can afford that long-lost film of Cain flooring Abel.
7. Enrolling Kevin Rooney in The Hair Club For Men.
6. Going partners with the CEO of Drake's Cakes on the contract of Buster Douglas.
5. Saying to Don King, "Here's $1-million. Know of any good penny stocks we can invest in?"
4. Picking up the tab for a male bonding weekend of sun and fun at Hilton Head with Mitch "Blood" Green and Greg Garrison. You know, just the guys.
3. Ordering HBO so he won't miss a single word of George Foreman's sharp, focused fight analyses.
2. Making a tax-deductible contribution to NOW.
1. Engaging in a shopping spree at Victoria's Secret in anticipation of making Razor Ruddock his girlfriend.



Tyson and Ruddock were once close



Ketchel: Remembered in Grand Rapids

REMEMBERING "THE MICHIGAN ASSASSIN"

Stanley Ketchel is the greatest boxing hero to emerge from Grand Rapids, Michigan, and thanks to Jeff Portko, the memory of "The Michigan Assassin" lives on.

Last September, Portko, an attorney and the Fundraising Committee Chairman of the Michigan Golden Gloves Association, organized the erection of a historical marker at Ketchel's grave site in Grand Rapids. Now he's tackling a new project: Portko has begun a letter-writing campaign to name The Grand Rapids Sports Arena, a $70-million facility currently under construction, in honor of Ketchel.

"With enough favorable response from boxing fans worldwide," says Portko, "I believe the Grand Action Committee can be persuaded to designate the new arena for Ketchel."

Those interested in supporting the cause should write to Grand Action Committee, 120 Lyon Street N.W., Grand Rapids, MI 49503.

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"Anyone watching this tape will gain a new appreciation for the sport and the athletes who participate in it. Boxing fans as well as would-be boxers will want to add this one to their collection."
MARK GIAQUINTO, Billboard.

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"There's so much to be learned from watching a six-time world champion in action..." BERT RANDOLPH SUGAR, Boxing Illustrated

"At long last Boxing has a real instructional video!" RANDY GORDON, New York State Athletic Commissioner/ Former TV Boxing Analyst

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RAZOR "EDGE" BROWN British Kickboxing Champ

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STEVE FARHOOD, Editor in Chief, [illegible]

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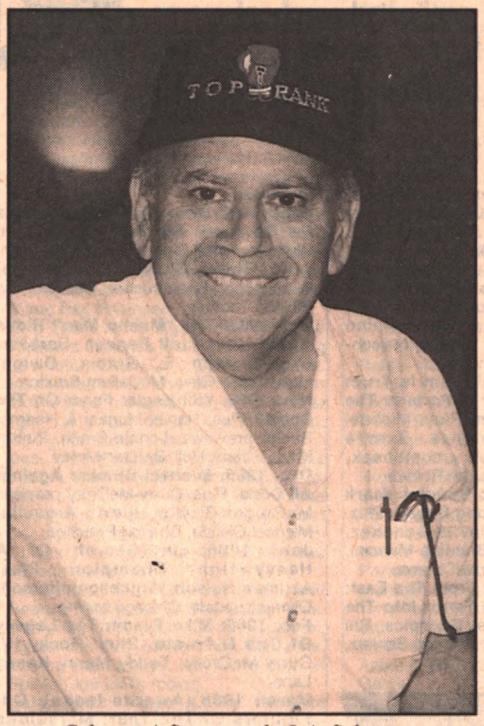
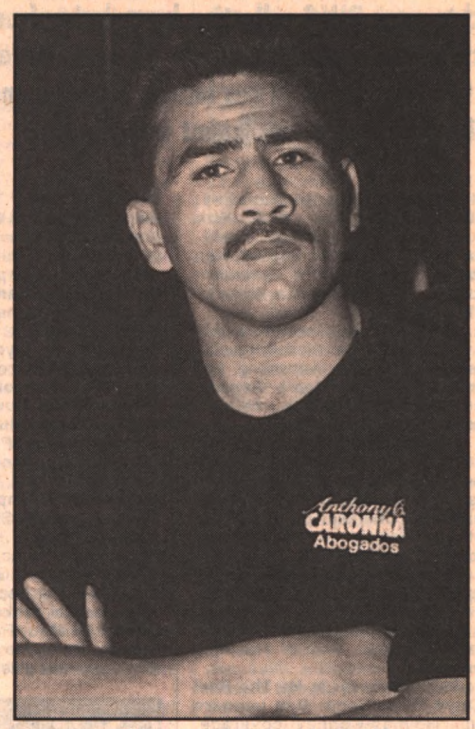
OUTSIDE THE ROPES

Former featherweight contender **Ruben Palacio** was sentenced to four years in federal prison after pleading guilty in January to charges of importing heroin. The 32-year-old Colombian was arrested last November at Miami International Airport with 5.3 pounds of heroin concealed in the lining of his coat and undershorts ... Yugoslavian 1984 Olympic gold medalist **Anton Josipovic** was found guilty of blackmail and intimidation and sentenced to two years in prison, according to the state news agency HINA. The 34-year-old Josipovic was accused of trying to extort $13,300 from the owner of a downtown Zagreb donut shop. Josipovic, who didn't turn pro until 1990, is 8-1 (4) ... **John Cabrera**, the Los Angeles matchmaker who helped develop the careers of **Michael Carbajal**, **Johnny Tapia**, and **Scotty Olson**, died in February at age 62. In the '70s, Cabrera trained and managed world junior middleweight champion **Oscar "Shotgun" Albarado** ... Perennial featherweight contender **Pancho Segura** was arrested in Indio, California, on suspicion of felony spousal abuse.



Cabrera: A fixture on the L.A. fight scene



Segura: Out-of-the ring trouble

A VIOLENT PRELIM

Before the marathon McCall-Holmes fight card at Caesars Palace, a gunman shot to death an acquaintance in front of the hotel, then did a "victory dance" over the victim, according to police. A 45-year-old Las Vegas man was booked for investigation of murder. Police said the two men had just left the casino when one pulled out a handgun and shot the other in the head. The gunman fired at least six shots in all.

THE PUNCHLINE

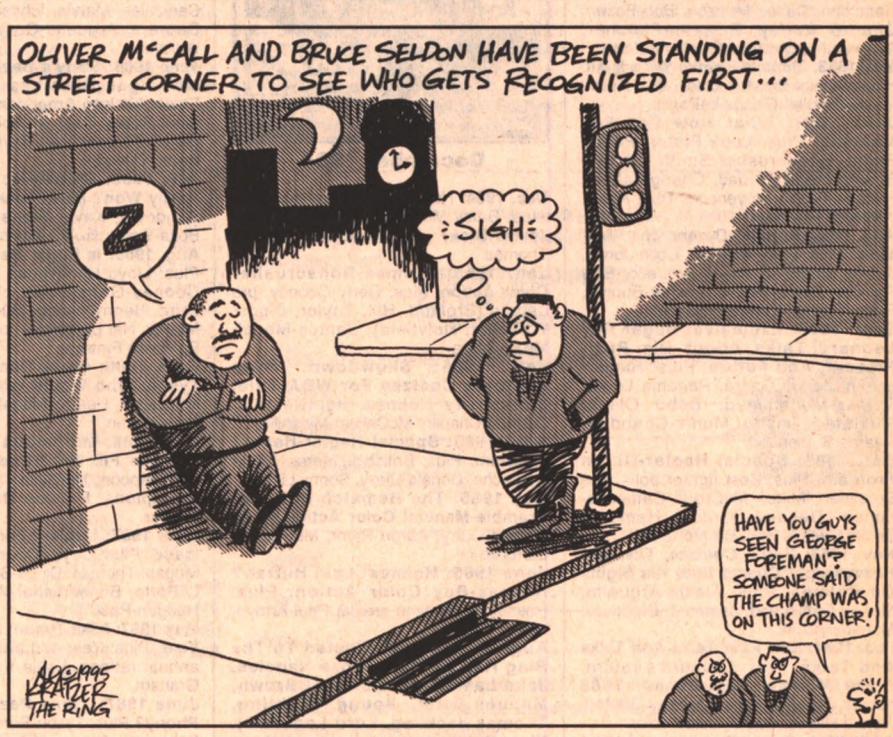
Analyst Marvin Hagler during McCall-Holmes: "I see Oliver looking a little amarish."

Host Jim Hill: "Amateurish?"

Hagler: "Amarish."

Maybe if the broadcast had been in Italian ...

AL KRATZER'S VIEW



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Aug. 1981: Wilfred Benitez: Triple Crown Champ. Plus: Alexis Arguello, Roberto Duran, Henry Armstrong, Bob Fitzsimmons, Davey Moore, Benitez-Hope, Page-Evangelista, Hagler-Antuofermo II, Hamsho-Minter.

Oct. 1981: Holmes-Cooney: Is It Is Or Is It Ain't? Plus: Best Fighter, hard-hitting heavyweights, who's who in each division, Donald Curry, Spinks-Muhammad, Chandler-Solis, Snipes-Coetzee, boxing on TV, Rocky Graziano, Sugar Ray Leonard.

Feb. 1982: Special Holmes-Cooney Program Section. Plus: Irish boxers, Sean O'Grady, Ali, Pedroza-Ballas, Braxton-Muhammad, Pedroza-Sibaca, Sanchez-Cowdell, Best of The Ring Anthology.

Aug. 1982: Cooney: Is He The Real McCoy? Plus: Sugar Ray Leonard pinup, Holmes-Cooney coverage, Howard Davis, British heavyweights, Larry Holmes, Limon-Navarette.

Jan. 1983: Pryor-Arguello: Fight Of The Year. Plus: Frank "Animal" Fletcher, Dwight Braxton-Michael Spinks preview, ring deaths, Muhammad Ali.

Feb. 1983: Michael Dokes: Tainted Champion? Plus: Howard Cosell, Ray Mancini, Bum of the Month Club, Chacon-Limon.

April 1983: Randall "Tex" Cobb: Not Just Another Pretty Face. Plus: Hector Camacho, Carlos Monzon, Bob Foster, Charley Burley, Scypion-Fletcher, Mayweather-Serrano, Stanley Ketchel.

May 1983: Michael Spinks Wins It All. Plus: Spinks-Braxton color, Bob Arum, Marvin Hagler, Collins-LaPaglia.

June 1983: What Now For Ray Mancini? Plus: Lupe Pintor, Paddy Flood, Bonecrusher Smith, Charlie Brown, Frazier-Broad, Chang-Zapata, Holmes-Teofilo Stevenson, Tony Ayala, Jersey Joe Walcott.

Aug. 1983: Roberto Duran: One 'Mas' Time. Plus: Larry Holmes, Colin Jones, Jimmy Montoya, Alexis Arguello, Billy Petrolle, Duran-Moore, Frazier-Bugner, Resto-Collins, Escalera-Hatcher.

Sept. 1983: Exclusive: Sugar Ray Leonard Talks About His Past, Present, And Future. Plus: Hagler-Duran, Jaime Garza, Panama Lewis, Spinks-Muhammad, Bobo Olson, Mustafa Hamsho, Muniz-Chandler, Hearns-Sutherland.

Oct. 1983: Special Hagler-Duran Program. Plus: Best fighter poll, Jose Sulaiman, Milton McCrory, Camacho-Limon, DeLeon-Gordon, Hamsho-Benitez, who's who, Bill McNeese.

Nov. 1983: Gerrie Coetzee: The New Heavyweight Champ Sets His Sights On Holmes. Plus: Alexis Arguello, Murray Sutherland, James J. Braddock, Muhammad Ali.

Feb. 1984: Don King Talks And Talks And Talks. Plus: Leonard's return, Eddie Mustafa Muhammad, 1983 quotes, Marvin Hagler, Johnny Bratton, Gerald Hayes, Hagler-Duran color.

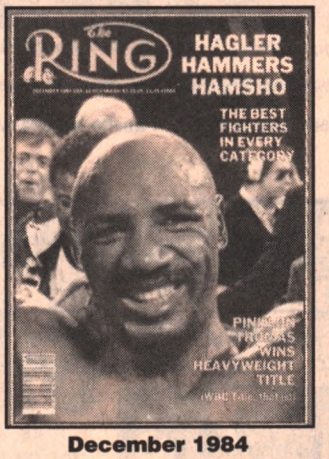
April 1984: Sugar Ray Leonard: "I'm Gonna Be Better Than Ever!" Plus: Ring's ratings of 8,000 fighters, Henry Armstrong, Don Lee, Koji Kobayashi, Mancini-Chacon (color).

June 1984: Bumphus, Lockridge, Duva: 'That Championship Year.' Plus: Ferdie Pacheco, Harry Arroyo, Holmes-Coetzee preview, Pipino Cuevas, Aaron Pryor, Battling Nelson-Joe Gans, Witherspoon-Page.

July 1984: Bazooka's Aim Is True: Gomez Shoots Down LaPorte In The Battle For San Juan. Plus: Michael Spinks, Vinny Pazienza, Tyrone Crawley, Leonard's comeback, Chandler-Sandoval, Hagler-Roldan.

Aug. 1984: Olympic Special: Mark Breland Leads A Strong Squad. Plus: Leonard-Howard, Davila-Sanchez, Bonecrusher-Bruno, Bramble-Mancini, Hatcher-Bumphus, Garza-Orozco.

Oct. 1984: The Beast From The East: John Mugabi Strikes Terror Into The Hearts Of Men. Plus: Olympics, Bill Costello, Davey Moore, Wilfred Benitez, King's heavyweights.



December 1984

Dec. 1984: Hagler Hammers Hamsho. Plus: Barry McGuigan, boxing's best, James Broad, Julian Jackson, Pinklon Thomas.

Jan. 1985: Holmes-Bonecrusher Color Action. Plus: Gerry Cooney, pro debuts (Breland, Hill, Taylor, Biggs, Whitaker, Holyfield), Santos-Medal, Meza-Garza.

Feb. 1985: Showdown: Page Clobbers Coetzee For WBA Title. Plus: Larry Holmes, lightweights, Cooney-Chaplin, McCallum-Minchillo.

April 1985: Special Hagler-Hearns Program. Plus: British fighters, Hector Camacho, Donald Curry, Sonny Liston.

May 1985: The Rematch In Reno: Bramble-Mancini Color Action. Plus: Donald Curry, Aaron Pryor, McGuigan-LaPorte.

June 1985: Holmes' Last Hurrah? Holmes-Bey Color Action. Plus: Holmes vs. all-time greats, Paul-Arroyo, 1901.

Aug. 1985: Seven Elected To The Ring Hall Of Fame (Jose Napoles, Jake LaMotta, Panama Al Brown, Manuel Ortiz, Young Stribling, Thomas Jackling, Lord Lonsdale). Plus: Spinks-Holmes preview, Barry McGuigan.

Sept. 1985: Barry McGuigan: Can He Be Boxing's Savior? Plus: Truth Williams, Tyrell Biggs, Greg Richardson, Julio Cesar Chavez, Paul-Blake, Witherspoon-Bonecrusher, Berbick-Bey, Pinklon Thomas.

Oct. 1985: The "Macho Man" Rides Again. Plus: Jeff Fenech, Berbick-Green, John E. Garcia, Dwight Muhammad Qawi, McCallum-Braxton.

Nov. 1985: Will Hagler Feast On The Beast? Plus: Hagler-Mugabi & Hearns-Shuler previews, Lonnie Smith, Pintor-Meza, Chuck Hull, Benitez-Moley.

Dec. 1985: Michael Spinks: Against All Odds. Plus: Curry-McCrory preview, McGuigan-Taylor, Alexis Arguello, Michael Olajide, Chavez-Pratchett.

Jan. 1986: In Search Of A Heavyweight Champion. Plus: Azumah Nelson, Arguello-Jefferson, Olympic update, Chicago boxing.

Feb. 1986: Mike Tyson: The Legacy Of Cus D'Amato. Plus: Rocky IV, Curry-McCrory, Teddy Mann, Kenny Lane.

March 1986 (Awards Issue): Co-Fighters Of The Year: Marvelous Marvin Hagler & Donald Curry. Plus: Ring's Annual Awards, Evander Holyfield, Williamson-Muhammad, Camacho-Roach, 1985 boxing diary.

April 1986: Witherspoon Tames Tubbs For WBA Title. Plus: Dream fights, Greg Haugen, Tyrell Biggs, Mark Breland, Paul Gonzales, HBO tourney, Witherspoon-Tubbs, Frank Warren, Gene Tunney.

May 1986: Marvelous Marvin Tames The Beast. Plus: Hearns-Shuler, Mike Tyson, Bramble-Crawley, Sandoval-Canizales, Marvin Johnson, McGuigan-Cabrera, Arguello-Costello, Weaver-Williams.

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Aug. 1986: Is Sugar Ray Still Sweet? Plus: Lloyd Honeyghan, Tyson-Green, Cooney-Gregg, Hall of Fame (Eder Jofre, Benny Lynch, Bud Taylor, Sam McVey, Nat Langham, John Chambers), Bernardo Pinango.

Sept. 1986: Gerry Cooney vs. Mike Tyson: Who Would Win? Plus: Cruz-McGuigan, Hearns-Medal, Tyson-Gross, Sims-Duran.

Oct. 1986: Marvelous Marvin: Can Anyone Fill His Shoes? Plus: Tim Witherspoon, Holyfield-Qawi, Panama's champions, Frankie Duarte, Tyson-Frazier.

April 1987: Hagler-Leonard Souvenir Issue. Plus: Czyz, Orlando Canizales, Mugabi-Thomas, Biggs-Snipes, Chavez-LaPorte, Bonecrusher-Witherspoon II, Haugen-Paul.

May 1987: Mike Tyson: Fighter Of The Year. Plus: Year-end awards, *The Ring* annual ratings, Louie Espinoza, Herol Graham.

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Oct. 1987: Special Hall Of Fame Issue: Ali Elected Unanimously! Plus: Hall of Fame directory, Spinks-Cooney, Pazienza-Haugen II, Aaron Pryor.

Nov. 1987: Tyson Wins Heavyweight Triple Crown. Plus: McCallum-Curry, Carlos Monzon interview, triple champions, Orlin & Terry Norris, Ramirez-Alli, Fenech-Richardson, Matthew Hilton.

Dec. 1987: Spinks & Lewis: Boxing's Beastie Boys. Plus: Starling-Breland, Ramzi Hassan, Honeyghan-Hatcher, Holyfield-Ocasio.

Jan. 1988: Darrin Van Horn-Million Dollar Baby? Plus: Evander Holyfield, Hill-Stewart, Juan Coggi, great hookers, AIDS.

Feb. 1988: Gold Outshines Glitter: Tate Tops Olajide. Plus: Tyson-Biggs, Kalambay-Barkley, Hearns-Roldan, fights we'd like to see.

March 1988: Thomas "Hit Man" Hearns: "Now I Own History." Plus: Rocky Lockridge & Roger Mayweather, Panama, Tony Burton, Chavez-Rosario, Gervacio-Espinoza, Vaca-Honeyghan.

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Jan. 1989: Meldrick Taylor: Philly Phenom. Plus: Marvin Hagler, Akio Wallau, Taylor-McGirt, Olympic results.

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Ray? Plus: Leonard-Lalonde, Prince Charles Williams, Hearns-Kinchen, Nunn-Roldan, Hines-Hilton.

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Feb. 1990: Mike Tyson: Riddick Bowe I Ray Mercer Take Aim. Plus: Bobby Czyz, Gerry Cooney, Chuck Wepner, Antonio Esparragoza, Roman-Laciar.

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Sept. 1990: Marvin Hagler-Can He Resist The Irresistible Temptation? Plus: Thomas Hearns, Sanchez-Saddler, Paul Banke, puncher vs. chin, Beau Jack, Robinson-LaMotta (color).

Dec. 1990: Exclusive Annual Report: The State Of The Game. Plus: Douglas-Holyfield preview, Julio Cesar Chavez, Joe Grim, Whitaker-Nazario, Rosi-Van Horn, Benny Leonard, Douglas-Tyson (color).

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Oct. 1991: A Hit Again-How Far Can Thomas Hearns Go? Plus: Battling Levinsky, Oba Carr, Dave McAuley, Muhammad Ali, Lou Ambers, Luther McCarty, ethnic matchups, computer light heavy tournament, Cerdan-Hagler, Rocky Marciano (color).

Dec. 1991: Evander Holyfield vs. Mike Tyson: Who Will Win And Why. Plus: Eddie Aliano, Jack Britton, Muhammad Ali, Pernell Whitaker, rating the 44 world champions, Marcel Cerdan, Henry Cooper, Ezzard Charles-Jersey Joe Walcott (color).

Jan. 1992: Our Exclusive Annual Report: The State Of The Game. Plus: Jerry Quarry, Julio Cesar Chavez, Mysterious Billy Smith, Joey Gamache, moving up in weight, Billy Conn-Michael Spinks, Joe Louis (color).

July 1992: Does Larry Holmes Deserve A Title Shot? Plus: Nelson-Fenech II, Tracy Patterson, Kelley-Dorsey, fat fighters, Buchanan-Camacho, Holmes-Ali (color).

Aug. 1992: Holyfield-Holmes Prefight. Holmes: "I See Me Takin' Holyfield Outta There." Plus: Iran Barkley, Herbie Hide, George Foreman, Tex Cobb, Carnival of Champions, Harry Greb, Haugen-Mancini, Oscar De La Hoya, Gene Tunney (color).

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Oct. 1992: The Supreme Dream: The Heavyweight Hopes Of The Heavyweight Hopefuls. Plus: Kevin Kelley, All-Time Top 10: South Africa, Meldrick Taylor, Sharmba Mitchell, Bob Foster, Eder Jofre, Max Baer (color).

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April 1993: Riddick Bowe: Fighter Of The Year. Plus: "Grand Slam" fight card, Toney-Barkley preview, Morris East, Joe Louis-John Henry Lewis, All-Time Top 10: Argentina, Fighters of the Year (color).

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Aug. 1993: A Ring Exclusive: Julio Cesar Chavez Speaks Out. Plus: Bobby Czyz, 10 hardest punchers, Rafael Ruelas, Carmen Basilio, closing of the Fifth Street Gym, Sugar Ray Leonard (color).

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Dec. 1993: What If Mike Tyson Had Never Gone To Jail? Plus: Freddie Pendleton, Michael Moorer & Tommy Morrison, Willie Pep, Ed Dunkhorst, All-Time Top 10: Cuba, Tyson-Spinks (color).

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Sept. 1994 (92-Page Special): How Michael Moorer Defeated Evander Holyfield, By Teddy Atlas! Plus: Chavez-Randall II, Lennox Lewis, Mando Ramos, all-time greatest cards, What If ... Duran vs. Arguello, All-Time Top 10: Scotland.

Oct. 1994: Rating The Champs: Whitaker & Toney Lead The Field ... But Roy Jones Is Closing Fast. Plus: Oscar De La Hoya, Meldrick Taylor, Rafael Ruelas, Curtis Cokes.

Nov. 1994: With Lewis Fighting Bowe ... Is Michael Moorer's Career Off-Target? Plus: Wayne McCullough, Hall of Fame, Alejandro Lavorante, Rocky Marciano, Paz-Duran, Injuries (part I), What If ... Pedroza vs. Sanchez.

Dec. 1994: Fighting-Mad! James Toney Just Wants To Beat People Up. Plus: Duran & Robinson, Don King, Mike McCallum, Injuries (part II), Tom Molineaux.

Winter 1994 (92-Page Special): Mike Tyson: An Exclusive Interview From Behind Bars. Plus: Best of the last 100 years, Jones-Toney preview, Injuries (part III), Miguel Angel Gonzalez, Jack Sharkey, What If ... Galindez-Conteh.

Jan. 1995: A Puncher's Chance: Oliver McCall Upsets Boxing's Balance Of Power. Plus: Ruelas brothers, Quincy Taylor, "Unfinished Business," Dave Maier, All-Time Top 10: Canada.

Feb. 1995: Return To Greatness? Mike Tyson Doesn't Know His Future ... But The Ring Does! Plus: Pernell Whitaker, Lennox Lewis, Mark Johnson, Orlando Canizales, Tom Johnson, Irving Cohen.

March 1995 (92-Page Special): Through The Years: The Incredible Career(s) Of George Foreman. Plus: Jones-Toney, Ali in China, Chiquita-Carbajal III, Hank Kaplan.

April 1995: Roy Jones—Fighter Of The Year. Plus: Ex-champs Moorer, Holyfield, Lewis, & Bowe, Chavez-Lopez & Castro-Jackson, Olzubek-Gamache, What If ... Chandler-Pintor.

May 1995: The State Of The Game. Plus: Olzubek & Arbachakov, Gonzalez-Kelley, Pazienza-Duran II, All-Time Top 10: France.

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	☐ Dec/84	☐ Oct/86	☐ Nov/88	☐ Jun/91	☐ Feb/94
☐ Aug/81	**All 7 $28**	**All 10 $37**	**All 10 $37**	☐ Jul/91	☐ Mar/94
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THE RING RATINGS

For Period Ended April 28, 1995

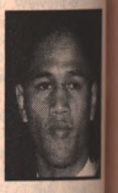
Alexandr Zolkin
Heavyweight

Frank Liles
Super Middleweight

Darryll Tyson
Junior Welterweight

Freddie Liberatore
Junior Lightweight

Naseem Hamed
Junior Featherweight



San Sor Ploenchit
Flyweight

How Our Ratings Are Compiled

In each division, fighters are ranked according to their abilities and accomplishments.

Being champion does not necessarily mean a fighter will be rated at the top of his weight class.

These ratings reflect how the best fighters in the world rate against one another.

Ratings By The Editors

Records By Fight Fax Inc.

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Weight Unlimited

1. **OLIVER McCALL** — Chicago, IL *26-5 (WBC Champ)*
2. **RIDDICK BOWE** — Fort Washington, MD *36-1*
3. **GEORGE FOREMAN** — Houston, TX *73-4 (IBF Champ)*
4. **MICHAEL MOORER** — Detroit, MI *35-1*
5. **LENNOX LEWIS** — England *25-1*
6. **BRUCE SELDON** — Atlantic City, NJ *32-3 (WBA Champ)*
7. **HENRY AKINWANDE** — England *25-0-1*
8. **JORGE LUIS GONZALEZ** — Las Vegas, NV *23-0*
9. **ALEXANDR ZOLKIN** — Westerville, OH *22-2*
10. **LIONEL BUTLER** — Houston, TX *23-10-1*

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 195 pounds

1. **ORLIN NORRIS** — Campo, CA *43-3 (WBA Champ)*
2. **AL COLE** — Spring Valley, NY *26-1 (IBF Champ)*
3. **ADOLPHO WASHINGTON** — Lexington, KY *24-3-2*
4. **ANACLET WAMBA** — France *45-2-1 (WBC Champ)*
5. **SERGEI KOBOZEV** — Brooklyn, NY *21-0*
6. **CARL THOMPSON** — England *18-3*
7. **ARTHUR WILLIAMS** — Las Vegas, NV *24-3-1*
8. **TORSTEN MAY** — Germany *9-0*
9. **PATRICE AOUSSI** — France *14-0*
10. **NATE MILLER** — Philadelphia, PA *24-4*

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Weight limit: 175 pounds

1. **MIKE McCALLUM** — Brooklyn, NY *48-2-1 (WBC Champ)*
2. **VIRGIL HILL** — Bismarck, ND *40-1 (WBA Champ)*
3. **HENRY MASKE** — Germany *26-0 (IBF Champ)*
4. **MONTELL GRIFFIN** — Chicago, IL *15-0*
5. **JAMES TONEY** — Ann Arbor, MI *45-2-2*
6. **FABRICE TIOZZO** — France *31-1*
7. **DARIUSZ MICHALCZEWSKI** — Germany *26-0*
8. **MERQUI SOSA** — New York, NY *24-4-2*
9. **PRINCE CHARLES WILLIAMS** — Mansfield, OH *36-6-3*
10. **GRACIANO ROCCHIGIANI** — Germany *37-1-1*

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 168 pounds

1. **ROY JONES** — Pensacola, FL *28-0 (IBF Champ)*
2. **NIGEL BENN** — England *40-2-1 (WBC Champ)*
3. **STEVE COLLINS** — Ireland *29-3*
4. **FRANK LILES** — N. Hollywood, CA *26-1 (WBA Champ)*
5. **CHRIS EUBANK** — England *41-1-2*
6. **VINNY PAZIENZA** — Cranston, RI *40-5*
7. **TIM LITTLES** — Flint, MI *25-1*
8. **FREDERIC SEILLIER** — France *39-5-2*
9. **TONY THORNTON** — Glassboro, NJ *37-6-1*
10. **BRYANT BRANNON** — Trenton, NJ *14-0*

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 160 pounds

1. **JORGE CASTRO** — Argentina *96-4-2 (WBA Champ)*
2. **BERNARD HOPKINS** — Philadelphia, PA *26-2-1*
3. **QUINCY TAYLOR** — Dallas, TX *24-3*
4. **JOHN DAVID JACKSON** — Seattle, WA *32-1*
5. **JULIAN JACKSON** — Virgin Islands *51-3 (WBC Champ)*
6. **REGGIE JOHNSON** — Houston, TX *35-4-1*
7. **SEGUNDO MERCADO** — Ecuador *18-2-1*
8. **JOE LIPSEY** — Lansing, MI *24-0*
9. **RODNEY TONEY** — Campo, CA *19-1-2*
10. **DANA ROSENBLATT** — Malden, MA *23-0*

JR. MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 154 pounds

1. **JULIO CESAR VASQUEZ**
   Argentina 53-2
2. **VINCENT PETTWAY**
   Baltimore, MD 37-4-1 (IBF Champ)
3. **VERNO PHILLIPS**
   New York, NY 25-4-1
4. **BUDDY McGIRT**
   Hauppauge, NY 65-4-1
5. **YORI BOY CAMPAS**
   Mexico 58-1
6. **TERRY NORRIS**
   Mission Valley, CA 38-6
7. **JULIO CESAR GREEN**
   Brooklyn, NY 19-1
8. **SIMON BROWN**
   Mount Airy, MD 43-3
9. **RAUL MARQUEZ**
   Houston, TX 20-0
10. **LAURENT BOUDOUANI**
    France 28-2

WELTERWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 147 pounds

1. **PERNELL WHITAKER**
   Norfolk, VA 35-1-1 (WBC Champ)
2. **FELIX TRINIDAD**
   Puerto Rico 26-0 (IBF Champ)
3. **IKE QUARTEY**
   Ghana 29-0 (WBA Champ)
4. **CRISANTO ESPANA**
   N. Ireland 31-1
5. **DERRELL COLEY**
   Capitol Heights, MD 26-0-2
6. **WILFREDO RIVERA**
   Puerto Rico 20-0-1
7. **OBA CARR**
   Detroit, MI 32-1
8. **EAMONN LOUGHRAN**
   Ireland 24-1-1
9. **ANDREW MURRAY**
   Guyana 18-2
10. **VALERY KAYUMBA**
    France 39-2-1

JR. WELTERWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 140 pounds

1. **FRANKIE RANDALL**
   Warren, OH 51-3-1 (WBA Champ)
2. **KOSTYA TSZYU**
   Australia 14-0 (IBF Champ)
3. **JULIO CESAR CHAVEZ**
   Mexico 93-1-1 (WBC Champ)
4. **JUAN COGGI**
   Argentina 67-3-2
5. **DAVID KAMAU**
   Los Angeles, CA 26-0
6. **JAKE RODRIGUEZ**
   Brentwood, NY 26-3-2
7. **DARRYLL TYSON**
   Washington, D.C. 45-6-1
8. **JAN BERGMAN**
   South Africa 26-0
9. **KHALID RAHILOU**
   France 22-2
10. **RAY OLIVEIRA**
    Falls River, MA 24-5

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 135 pounds

1. **MIGUEL ANGEL GONZALEZ**
   Mexico 35-0 (WBC Champ)
2. **RAFAEL RUELAS**
   Arleta, CA 43-1 (IBF Champ)
3. **OSCAR DE LA HOYA**
   Montebello, CA 17-0
4. **ORZUBEK NAZAROV**
   Japan 20-0 (WBA Champ)
5. **MIGUEL JULIO**
   Colombia 29-1-1
6. **JOHN-JOHN MOLINA**
   Puerto Rico 36-4
7. **STEVE JOHNSTON**
   Denver, CO 14-0
8. **LEAVANDER JOHNSON**
   Atlantic City, NJ 22-1-1
9. **SHANE MOSLEY**
   Pomona, CA 16-0
10. **IVAN ROBINSON**
    Delran, NJ 17-0

JR. LIGHTWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 130 pounds

1. **GABE RUELAS**
   Arleta, CA 40-2 (WBC Champ)
2. **GENARO HERNANDEZ**
   Los Angeles, CA 32-0-1 (WBA Champ)
3. **JESSE JAMES LEIJA**
   San Antonio, TX 28-1-2
4. **AZUMAH NELSON**
   Ghana 37-3-2
5. **REGGIE TUUR**
   Whitestone, NY 37-3-1
6. **ED HOPSON**
   St. Louis, MO 25-0 (IBF Champ)
7. **ARTURO GATTI**
   Jersey City, NJ 19-1
8. **VICTOR HUGO PAZ**
   Argentina 53-1-1
9. **FREDDIE LIBERATORE**
   Bayside, NY 20-4-1
10. **ROBERTO GARCIA**
    Oxnard, CA 21-0

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 126 pounds

1. **ALEJANDRO GONZALEZ**
   Mexico 36-2 (WBC Champ)
2. **TOM JOHNSON**
   Detroit, MI 38-2-1 (IBF Champ)
3. **STEVE ROBINSON**
   Wales 20-9-1
4. **ELOY ROJAS**
   Venezuela 30-1-1 (WBA Champ)
5. **KEVIN KELLEY**
   Flushing, NY 42-1
6. **YUNG KYUN PARK**
   South Korea 28-2-1
7. **TRACY PATTERSON**
   Highland, NY 52-3-1
8. **EVER BELENO**
   Colombia 30-1
9. **MIGUEL ARROZAL**
   Portland, OR 24-5
10. **MANUEL MEDINA**
    Mexico 49-6

JR. FEATHERWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 122 pounds

1. **VUYANI BUNGU**
   South Africa 26-2 (IBF Champ)
2. **WILFREDO VASQUEZ**
   Puerto Rico 42-6-3 (WBA Champ)
3. **HECTOR ACERO-SANCHEZ**
   New York, NY 32-2-2 (WBC Champ)
4. **ORLANDO CANIZALES**
   Laredo, TX 38-2-1
5. **NASEEM HAMED**
   England 17-0
6. **MARCO ANTONIO BARRERA**
   Mexico 35-0
7. **WELCOME NCITA**
   South Africa 33-2
8. **JULIO GERVACIO**
   Puerto Rico 30-4-2
9. **KENNEDY McKINNEY**
   Las Vegas, NV 27-1-1
10. **EDDIE CROFT**
    San Mateo, CA 22-1-1

BANTAMWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 118 pounds

1. **YASUEI YAKUSHIJI**
   Japan 24-2-1 (WBC Champ)
2. **DAORUNG MP PETROLEUM**
   Thailand 54-4-1 (WBA Champ)
3. **WAYNE McCULLOUGH**
   Las Vegas, NV 16-0
4. **SERGIO REYES**
   Fort Worth, TX 11-1
5. **ELIECER JULIO**
   Colombia 29-1
6. **HAROLD MESTRE**
   Colombia 21-2 (IBF Champ)
7. **AL KOTEY**
   England 20-1
8. **NANA KONADU**
   Ghana 34-2
9. **JOICHIRO TATSUYOSHI**
   Japan 10-2-1
10. **KHAOYAI MAHASARAKAM**
    Thailand 51-4

JR. BANTAMWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 115 pounds

1. **HAROLD GREY**
   Colombia 19-0 (IBF Champ)
2. **HIROSHI KAWASHIMA**
   Japan 16-2-1 (WBC Champ)
3. **JOHNNY TAPIA**
   Albuquerque, NM 29-0-1
4. **HYUNG CHUL LEE**
   South Korea 19-4 (WBA Champ)
5. **JULIO BORBOA**
   Mexico 24-5
6. **CECILIO ESPINO**
   Huntington Park, CA 29-3-1
7. **DAVID GRIMAN**
   Venezuela 20-2
8. **SATOSHI IIDA**
   Japan 17-0
9. **GERRY PENALOSA**
   Philippines 28-1-1
10. **SEUNG KOO LEE**
    South Korea 17-3-1

FLYWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 112 pounds

1. **YURI ARBACHAKOV**
   Japan 20-0 (WBC Champ)
2. **DANNY ROMERO**
   Albuquerque, NM 23-0 (IBF Champ)
3. **SAN SOR PLOENCHIT**
   Thailand 21-0 (WBA Champ)
4. **MARK JOHNSON**
   Washington, D.C. 22-1
5. **ALBERTO JIMENEZ**
   Mexico 28-3-2
6. **ISAIAS ZAMUDIO**
   Blythe, CA 38-5-1
7. **HIROKI IOKA**
   Japan 28-5
8. **ROBBIE REGAN**
   Wales 15-1-3
9. **CHATCHAI ELITE-GYM**
   Thailand 20-0
10. **FRANCISCO TEJEDOR**
    Colombia 42-2

JR. FLYWEIGHTS
Weight Limit: 108 pounds

1. **CHIQUITA GONZALEZ**
   Mexico 41-2 (WBC/IBF Champ)
2. **MICHAEL CARBAJAL**
   Phoenix, AZ 33-2
3. **HI YONG CHOI**
   South Korea 18-1 (WBA Champ)
4. **MELCHOR COB CASTRO**
   Mexico 43-4-4
5. **CARLOS MURILLO**
   Panama 27-2
6. **JESUS CHONG**
   Mexico 27-5
7. **LEO GAMEZ**
   Venezuela 27-4-1
8. **YUICHI HOSONO**
   Japan 21-3-1
9. **ERIC GRIFFIN**
   Jasper, TN 14-2
10. **HADAO CP GYM**
    Thailand 24-9-1

POUND-FOR-POUND

1. **PERNELL WHITAKER**
   Welterweight
2. **ROY JONES**
   Super Middleweight
3. **RICARDO LOPEZ**
   Strawweight
4. **CHIQUITA GONZALEZ**
   Junior Flyweight
5. **FRANKIE RANDALL**
   Junior Welterweight
6. **FELIX TRINIDAD**
   Welterweight
7. **MIGUEL ANGEL GONZALEZ**
   Lightweight
8. **YURI ARBACHAKOV**
   Flyweight
9. **KOSTYA TSZYU**
   Junior Welterweight
10. **MIKE McCALLUM**
    Light Heavyweight

New Faces

A LOOK BACK

Compiled By Steve Farhood

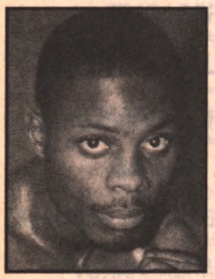
It's time to examine our recent batch of New Faces. As usual, it's a mixed bag of wondrous prodigies (Naseem Hamed), steadily advancing prospects (Paulie Ayala, Paul Vaden), and tarnished tyros who manage to lose immediately after appearing on our pages (Alfred Ankamah, Rodney Toney, Adrian Stone.) The checklist:

Naseem Hamed, bantamweight (July 1994 issue): It's not if "The Prince" is going to win a world title, or even when, but how many. The England-based Yemenite was devastating in scoring a first-round kayo of Sergio Liendo in March. Liendo had never before been stopped. Look for the flashy Prince to dethrone WBA junior featherweight champion Wilfredo Vasquez this summer. Record: 17-0 (15).

Corey Johnson, junior welterweight (August 1994 issue): Every prospect has to take that giant step, and in battling fellow southpaw and top-10 contender Steve Johnston in March, Johnson stumbled, suffering an eighth-round kayo loss. He's tall and quick, but a lack of power remains a major weakness. Record: 18-1 (5).

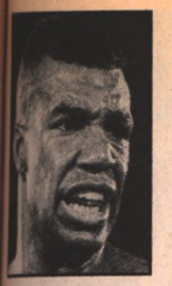
Carlos Hernandez, junior lightweight (September 1994 issue): The California 130-pounder has progressed steadily. With the exception of Narciso Valenzuela, however, he hasn't faced any threatening opposition. One major change: When we featured "Famous," he was handled by venerable makers-of-champions Jackie McCoy and Bennie Georgino. Now he's trained by Robert Alcazar, who guides Oscar De La Hoya. Record: 20-0-1 (12).

Andrew Golota, heavyweight (October 1994 issue): Polish power! The Chicago-based Golota is big (6'4½", 240), unbeaten, and ready to make his move. "Look for a breakthrough fight on the Holyfield-Mercer card [on May 20]," says trainer Lou Duva. Golota benefits from the world-class sparring and political connections provided by the Duvas. However, he seemed uninspired in outpointing survivor Marion Wilson in April. Record: 23-0 (20).

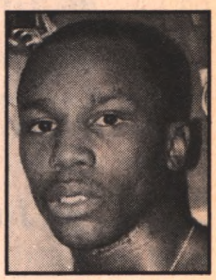


Keith Holmes, welterweight (November 1994 issue): Since featured in THE RING, Holmes has captured the USBA junior middleweight title and won two other bouts. Of far greater significance, he was acquitted in January of a drive-by shooting. His first post-trial bout was a second-round kayo of Sam Wilson in March. If he stays out of trouble, his future is limitless. Record: 24-1 (15).

Paulie Ayala, bantamweight (December 1994 issue): San Antonio's Ayala has been in competition with fellow Texan Sergio Reyes since their amateur days. In March, Ayala, a southpaw, won the NABF 118-pound crown 18 days before his rival captured the USBA title. (Ayala crushed Miguel Espinoza in three rounds.) He's aiming for WBC titleholder Yasuei Yakushiji. Record: 14-0 (6).



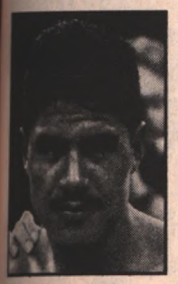
Paul Vaden, junior middleweight (Winter 1994 issue): Tall for a 154-pounder (6'1") and exceptionally quick, San Diego's Vaden is playing the ratings game; he's listed second by the IBF, behind only Julio Cesar Green, who is likely to try for the vacant WBA title. Further exposure on the USA Network is ahead. Record: 22-0 (11).



Tim Austin, bantamweight (January 1995 issue): Fighting mostly on Don King's undercards, Austin has been moved cautiously since winning a bronze medal at the 1992 Olympics. On the McCall-Holmes undercard, he engaged in his first scheduled 10-rounder, but his bout with Javier Diaz ended in a first-round technical draw. "We'd like to be ranked in the top 10 by the end of this year," says trainer John Falcone. Record: 10-0-1 (10)

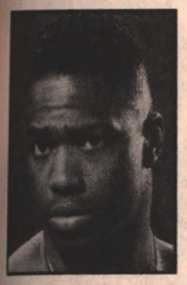
Alfred Ankamah, welterweight (February 1995 issue): Ouch! In March, "Torpedo" seemed en route to another victory when he stunned James Page in the first round of their battle at the Great Western Forum. But Page quickly came roaring back, and a series of left hooks brought the referee's intervention. It wasn't the type of loss that will be easily dismissed. Record: 12-1 (12).

Rodney Toney, middleweight (March 1995 issue): Almost as soon as we went to press with our feature on Toney, he suffered a cut-eye stoppage vs. Quincy Taylor. He hasn't fought since, but was scheduled for a bout in April and two more in May. "The loss to Taylor was a result of the hype," says manager Joe Sayatovich. "He needed to go through a tough fight." Record: 19-1-2 (11).

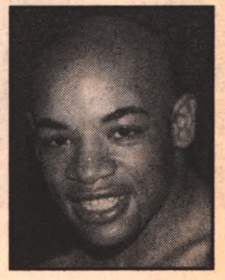


Robert Garcia, junior lightweight (April 1995 issue): As we went to press, "Grandpa" was scheduled for a crossroads match vs. unbeaten 1992 Olympian Julian Wheeler, 11-0 (5), on ESPN. It figures to be a classic boxer-puncher matchup, with Garcia banking on his lethal left hook. The winner deserves top-10 consideration. Record: 20-0 (16).

Ray Anis, heavyweight (May 1995 issue): If you remember our feature on the Haiti-born heavyweight, manager Jim Fennell bemoaned the fact that none of the division's big names wants to fight his prospect. Well, Fennell matched Anis vs. Razor Ruddock—until the former number-one contender pulled out to take a fight with James Thunder. Maybe that's a break for Anis, who's looked lousy his last couple of times out. Record: 19-1 (13).



Chris Byrd, heavyweight (June 1995 issue): Despite winning a silver medal at the 1992 Olympics, Byrd remains among boxing's least-publicized heavyweight prospects. That's because the speedy southpaw hasn't received any national TV exposure. He lacks power, but he just might sneak up on everyone. In his most recent effort, he stopped Mike Rouse in five rounds. Record: 11-0 (7).



Adrian Stone, welterweight (July 1995 issue): Ouch II: In April, the New Jersey-based Englishman pounded on defending USBA welterweight champion Jesse James Hughes for nine rounds—then got kayoed in the 10th. A good experience, said manager Stan Hoffman. A bad sign, says THE RING. Record: 13-1-1 (8). ■

RYAN OUT LOUD

By Jeff Ryan

THE LONG GOODBYE

It was round nine, and, suddenly, Larry Holmes wasn't just a famous old heavyweight anymore. He was a whole bunch of them. Pinned against the ropes in the parking lot of Caesars Palace, his head snapping from punches, he was Muhammad Ali faltering against a younger "Easton Assassin." Gashed across the left cheek, he was Sonny Liston losing blood and hope against Cassius Clay in Miami. Firing once-potent right hands that now bounced harmlessly off his rival's chin, he was Joe Louis in Madison Square Garden in 1951. Or maybe worse. After all, Holmes was facing not Rocky Marciano, but Oliver McCall, a guy who *really* couldn't carry Larry's jockstrap.

"Holmes is looking to become the second 45-year-old fighter to capture a portion of the heavyweight title," announcer Steve Albert said at one point during the pay-per-view telecast. It was just a throwaway line, but it could have been the winning entry in a Sum Up The Sorry State Of Boxing In 25 Words Or Less contest. Better yet, it might have been the only semi-logical explanation as to why a middle-aged multimillionaire was stubbornly holding on to a fight career while a wife and kids were sitting at ringside and holding their breath.

Seven years as heavyweight champion, more successful title defenses than anyone except Joe Louis, enough money to buy half of Easton, Pennsylvania (which is exactly what he did), and a guaranteed place in the Hall of Fame should have been enough for Larry Holmes. Sadly, though, nothing was ever enough. In his first career, Holmes had the misfortune of following Ali, a task akin to taking the stage as Elvis is leaving the build-

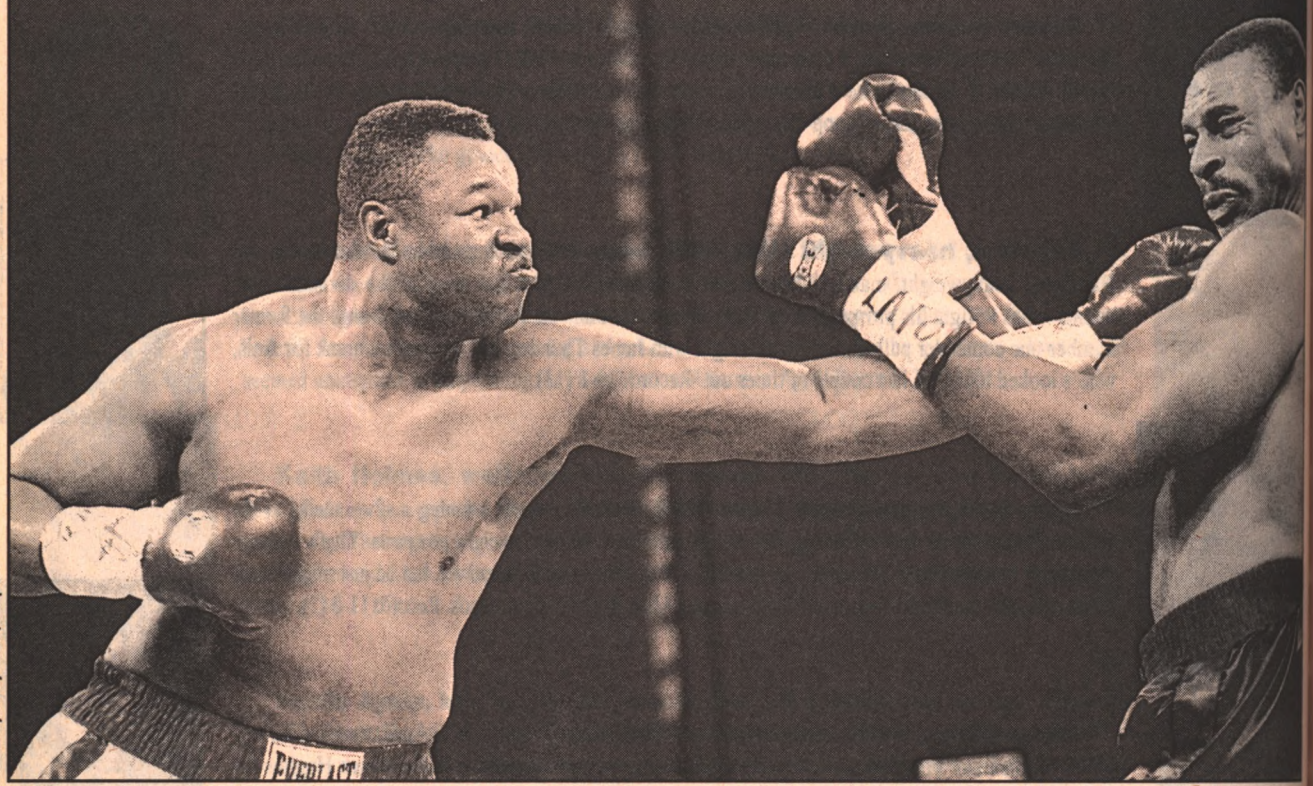


Photo by Holly Stein/Allsport

In losing to Oliver McCall, Holmes showed flashes of the heavyweight who dominated the division in the early-'80s. Will this retirement be his last?

Despite a long and distinguished career, Holmes never became accepted as the red-white-and-blue heavyweight. That role was reserved initially for Muhammad Ali, and later George Foreman.

ing. In his second career, he quickly learned that beating an undefeated Olympic gold medalist couldn't win him half as many fans as George Foreman gained every time he recycled a fast-food joke.

We thought Holmes had reached a peace with himself and the boxing public in 1988, when he was leveled by a prime Mike Tyson. By then, he had apologized for dissing Marciano and had ceased griping about his decision losses to Michael Spinks. As he entered the ring in Atlantic City's Convention Hall that night, the crowd delivered a thank you that was heard out on the beach. His quest to regain the prize repelled, a seemingly content Holmes re-retired. Finally, a sense of closure.

But the cuts and the scrapes inside him never completely healed, so he came back, teaching the Ray Mercers a lesson one night and making the Jesse Fergusons look better than they really were the next. Even a loss to Evander Holyfield didn't deter him. He talked about a showdown with fellow fossil Foreman, viewing it as a monster event and never realizing the scorn such a rocking-chair rumble might bring to two of history's greatest big men. As always, Holmes didn't quite get it.

As sad as his ending against McCall was, it was probably one of the better ways Holmes could have exited. He didn't get stopped or knocked down, and he wasn't overwhelmed on the cards. Our last image of him is not his being helped off the floor following the loss to Tyson, but rather one of Holmes walking on tired legs back to his corner after going the distance.

The fact that THE RING could still judge Holmes, at age 45, to be the best technical boxer in the division says a lot about the state of today's heavyweights. But it also says a lot about Holmes. You can take him and Foreman out of that great era, but you can't take that great era completely out of them. Would McCall have lasted five rounds with the prime Holmes? Hell, he only won a close decision over the past-his-prime version.

"I fell short of the goal I set, so it's probably time to give it up," Holmes said at the postfight press conference. "Boxing doesn't owe me anything. I owe boxing everything."

He got it backward. He doesn't owe boxing a thing, but the fight game owes him something: an acceptance of who he was in the ring. If we didn't appreciate him when he was smacking around one Leroy Jones, Ossie Ocasio, and Scott Frank after another, we sure did appreciate him when Tyson was locked away. While the linear title was being passed from Holyfield to Riddick Bowe to Holyfield to Michael Moorer to Foreman, we could have used someone like a prime Holmes on the scene to dominate the weight class and give us the sense that the heavyweight championship is a special prize, not something everyone gets to sample.

As the heavyweights go, we've been told, so goes boxing. Had the post-Ali era been followed by seven years of heavyweight title hot potato instead of seven years of an established, recognizable champion, how would boxing have fared? Would it have become such a network TV staple in the '80s if the heavyweight throne had been a seat of instability and interest in the sport was waning? Would Gerry Cooney's shot at the title have been such an earthquaking event if he was challenging Mike Weaver?

Too often, Holmes was a cantankerous character. He attributed Cooney's $10-million purse for their fight to the challenger's skin color. Never once did it dawn on him that if Cooney had been black, *Holmes'* purse wouldn't have been close to $10-million, either. He skewered sacred cows and acted like an ass. Then he wondered why people didn't embrace him.

Today, though, there are some signs that he has mellowed as his newspaper clippings have yellowed. After the McCall fight, he said, "What makes a champ is what you've got inside. It's how you treat people, how you respect people. It's important to be nice; it's very important to be nice."

Let's hope he can remain nice if he sees Foreman pocketing $40-million for a night's work against Tyson, or hears the names of his least-favorite Nevada judges, or reminds himself of Cooney's *Time* cover and Ali's shadow.

The fighter who spent as many years on the throne as he ever did in school always liked to tell us that he couldn't do anything about who he wasn't, that he could only ever be Larry Holmes. As he sits beside that built-in pool that's shaped like a boxing glove or surveys the Lehigh Valley from the top floor of one of the office buildings he owns back in Easton, he should know that history will be comfortable with that.

Deep down, will he? ■

THE RING IS EXCLUSIVE

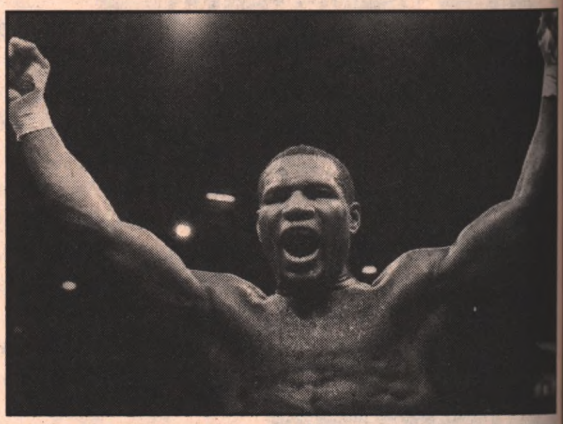
PHOTO QUIZ TEST

Can you identify the fighters in these photos? Award yourself 10 points for each question you answer correctly. If you score a total of 90-100 points, consider yourself a world champion. If you score 70-80 points, you rate as a top-10 contender. If you score 50-60 points, you're a clubfighter at best. Less than 50 points? Eat another piece of cheesecake and forget about that morning roadwork.

THIS MONTH: THE FIGHTERS OF THE KRONK GYM

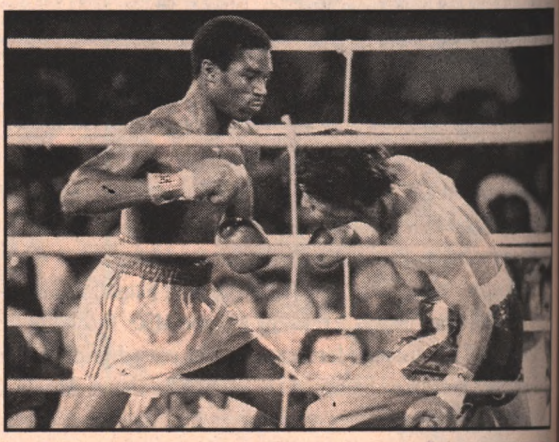
1

Not all Kronk fighters are products of the assembly lines of Motown. This former world champion joined the team only after losing to the star of the gym.



2

This hot Kronk prospect went 16-0 before suffering a kayo defeat to welterweight Bobby Joe Young. He never did fight for a world title.



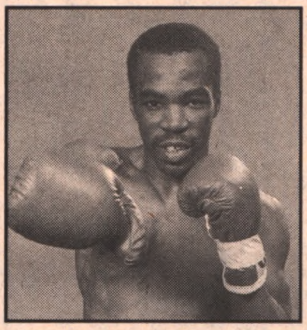
3

This perennial contender, who remains active as a welterweight, has had a couple of cracks at a world title. At far left is Kronk boss Emanuel Steward. At far right is trainer Luther Burgess.

YOUR BOXING IQ

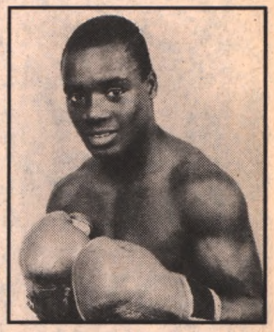
4

One of the first stars of the Kronk, this lightweight fought frequently on network TV in the '80s.



5

Kronk fighters come in all sizes. This bantamweight stood only 5'2", but won the USBA title and was ranked among the best in the world in the mid-'80s.

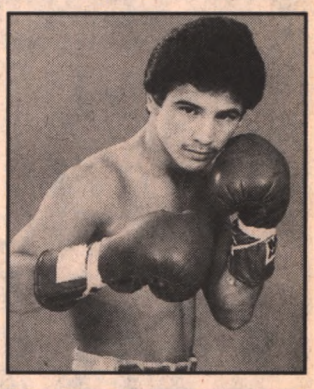


6

No, this isn't Tony Tucker. Instead, it's an amateur sensation who lost a spot on the 1984 Olympic team to Evander Holyfield. After a few pro bouts, he was sentenced to a lengthy stretch in prison for armed robbery.

7

Kronk is even represented in Texas, the home of this longtime contender. The southpaw has beaten, among others, Greg Richardson, James Pipps, and Jesus Salud.



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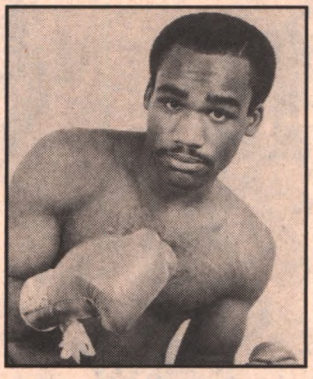
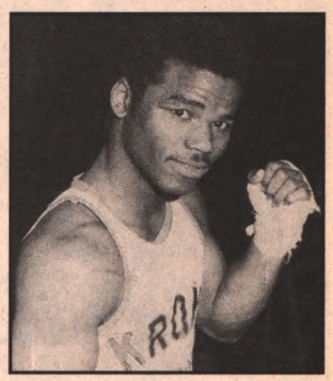
In 1986, this Kronkster joined the gym's ever-growing list of world champions by scoring a major upset. He lost the crown in his first defense.



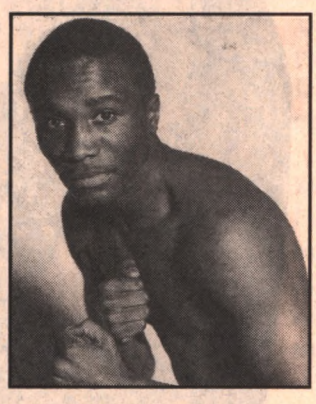
9

The Kronk's roots have always been in the amateurs, and this longtime contender, a member of the class of '80, was among the finest fighters in U.S. amateur history.



10

In 1986, this longtime Kronkster fought for a world championship in his 13th pro bout and was halted by a future triple-crown titlist.



ANSWERS:

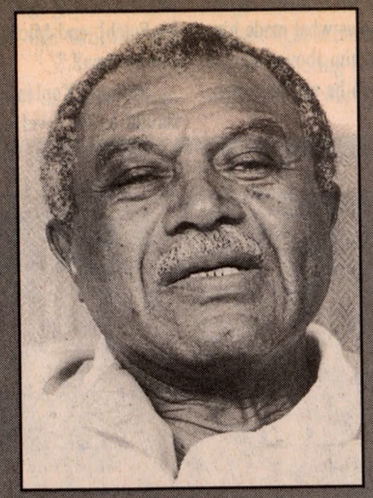
1) Dennis Andries
2) Darrell Chambers
3) Anthony Jones
4) Jimmy Paul
5) Hurley Snead
6) Ricky Womack
7) Jesse Benavides
8) Duane Thomas
9) Jackie Beard
10) Steve McCrory

The Second Coming

CAN MIKE TYSON GO FROM GREAT TO ALL-TIME GREAT?

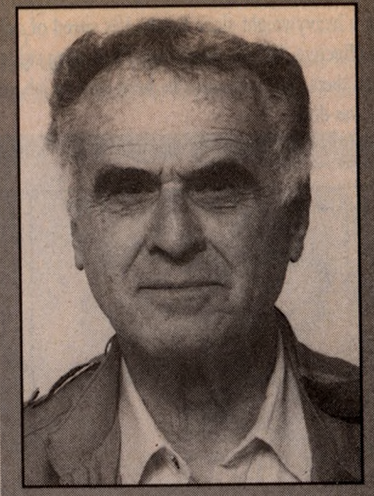
"Going back to before the Buster Douglas fight, Tyson was the greatest defensive heavyweight who ever lived. I know that's gonna surprise a lot of people."

–Hank Kaplan



"In determining whether he can move up, you have to figure out who's gonna be there for him to fight. Those fighters may not even be on the scene yet."

–Eddie Futch



"If Tyson was a great fighter, it was only because of the caliber of heavyweights around. The fight with Douglas and the two with Ruddock were evidence he wasn't a great fighter."

–Jack Fiske

By Steve Farhood

Every once in a Weill, you come across a fighter who's aware that Rocky Marciano was the only undefeated world champion in boxing history. Uninformed? Most of Generation X's young pugs think Sixto Escobar was an anatomically incorrect attraction in a circus freak show. Ask them to name the first-ever heavyweight titlist and the answers will include Muhammad Ali, with a couple of Hulk Hogans tossed in.

It's unfortunate, but only a handful of fighters value boxing history and anticipate their place in the record books. When Jeff Chandler began stockpiling title defenses, not only did he understand how long he'd have to reign to match the accomplishments of Manuel Ortiz and Carlos Zarate, but he knew, line by line of agate type, exactly how much space those bantamweight legends commanded in *The Ring Record Book And Encyclopedia*. Sadly, for every "Joltin' Jeff," there are five fighters who'll jolt you with the narrowness of their knowledge.

Then there's Mike Tyson, who has always displayed his appreciation of boxing's rich and storied past in unique ways. At press conferences, he'd issue challenges from the bare-knuckle days. ("We can go into the cellar, and whoever comes back with the key is the champion.") After knocking out opponents, he'd assume the preferred victory pose of Battling Nelson or Ad Wolgast. During his incarceration, he read the poetry of Maya Angelou and the philosophy of Nietzsche and Mao Tse-tung, but also the ring biographies of Nat Fleischer. In fact, according to published reports, before Tyson was released at dawn on March 25, his last activity as inmate number 922335 was a perusal of the latest issue of THE RING.

Like most historians, Tyson has his own set of all-time heavyweight rankings. (He places Muhammad Ali and Jack Johnson first and second.) It isn't his place, of course, to include himself on his list. The rest of us, however, have no such restrictions. Perhaps it sounds simplistic, but in analyzing Tyson's motivation during his second career, don't underestimate his desire to cement his greatness and reserve a place in the heavyweight pantheon. In the newsletter *Flash*, Las Vegas gym boss Johnny Tocco told of a recent phone conversation with Tyson. The former champion signed off by saying, "Johnny, I'm not worrying about anything except that I proved once that I was a great champion. Now I want to get my title back and do it again."

Was Tyson indeed a great champion? And if he was, what does he need to do during The Second Coming to reestablish that status? A second set of questions to consider: Where does Tyson rank on the all-time list of heavyweight champions? And will his comeback afford him the opportunity to improve his standing?

According to Hank Kaplan, who is arguably today's most respected boxing historian, Tyson's first career left little room for improvement.

"I'm a student of the science of boxing, and I go only by what a fighter does in the ring," he said. "I put the heavyweight champions on a wall like they're paintings and I judge them. I list Muhammad Ali first, then Sonny Liston, then Tyson. Going back to before the Buster Douglas fight, Tyson was the greatest defensive heavyweight who ever lived. I know that's gonna surprise a lot of people. But before he began to believe his own press clippings and he forgot about bobbing and weaving and his defensive mannerisms, he hardly ever got hit. Tony Tucker hit him one shot in 15 rounds, and the same with Bonecrusher Smith. In addition, he had a rock-hard chin and was the hardest two-fisted puncher who ever lived. Joe Louis is my all-time favorite fighter, and it kills me to say it, but he had that one flaw—his chin."

In the debate over Tyson's ranking among the heavyweight greats, Kaplan is outvoted three-to-one. Historian and dean of boxing writers Jack Fiske, Hall of Fame trainer Eddie Futch, and the editors of THE RING place him one level below the best of the best. Included in the upper echelon are Ali, Johnson, Jack Dempsey, Louis, and Rocky Marciano. One notch below are Larry Holmes, Joe Frazier, George Foreman, Tyson, and arguably Jim Jeffries and Gene Tunney. (Sorry, Tony Tubbs.)

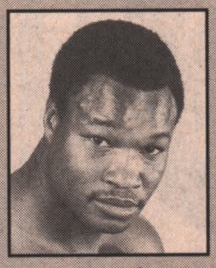
"I rank him high because of his quick hands and power," said Futch.

"When he hit you good, something happened. He had the quickest hands for a heavyweight since Louis. His speed of delivery was what made him so effective. But he didn't have the boxing skills to put him above some of the others. After six rounds, he'd start to jab, and when he started to jab, he was done.

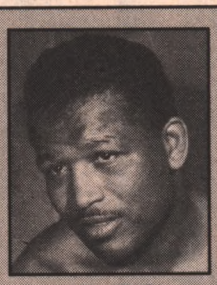
"Also, I thought the division was lacking in talent [during Tyson's reign]. The best opponent he fought was Michael Spinks [who was trained by Futch], and Michael wasn't a great fighter as a heavyweight. He was just too small."

Perhaps Kaplan is right: In ranking fighters, the ultimate criterion should be the level of their skills. But according to Fiske, fighters must ultimately be judged by the quality of their opposition.

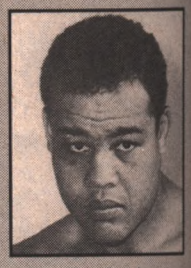
Sugar Ray Leonard



Larry Holmes



Sugar Ray Robinson



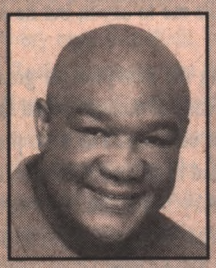
Joe Louis

BIG-TIME COMEBACKS: A HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

Mike Tyson isn't the first big-name fighter to return to the ring after a lengthy absence. Listed below are some of the other notable world champions who, for a variety of reasons, made boxing comebacks. Some enhanced their reputations, while others literally fell flat on their faces.

CHAMPION	ABSENCE	COMEBACK AGE	COMEBACK RECORD	ENHANCED REPUTATION?
James J. Jeffries	6 years	35	0-1	No
Benny Leonard	7 years	35	18-1-1	No
Joe Louis	2 years	36	8-2	No
Beau Jack	4 years	33	2-1-1	No
Sugar Ray Robinson	2 years	33	44-16-4	Yes
Willie Pep	6 years	42	9-1	No
Eder Jofre	3 years	33	25-0	Yes
Carlos Ortiz	2 years	35	9-1	No
Vicente Saldivar	2 years	26	3-2	No
Muhammad Ali	3 years	28	27-5	Yes
Joe Frazier	5 years	37	0-0-1	No
Ken Buchanan	4 years	34	4-5	No
George Foreman*	10 years	38	28-2	Yes
Ruben Olivares	4 years	39	2-1	No
Carlos Zarate	7 years	34	14-2	No
Alexis Arguello*	8 years	42	1-1	No
Eusebio Pedroza	5 years	38	3-1	No
Sugar Ray Leonard	3 years	30	3-1-1	Yes
Danny Lopez	12 years	39	0-1	No
Larry Holmes	3 years	41	13-2	No
Lupe Pintor*	8 years	38	2-4	No
Mike Tyson*	4 years	29	0-0	?

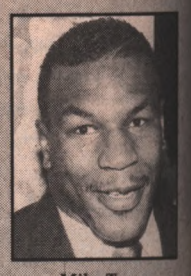
**—still active*



George Foreman

Muhammad Ali

Benny Leonard



Mike Tyson

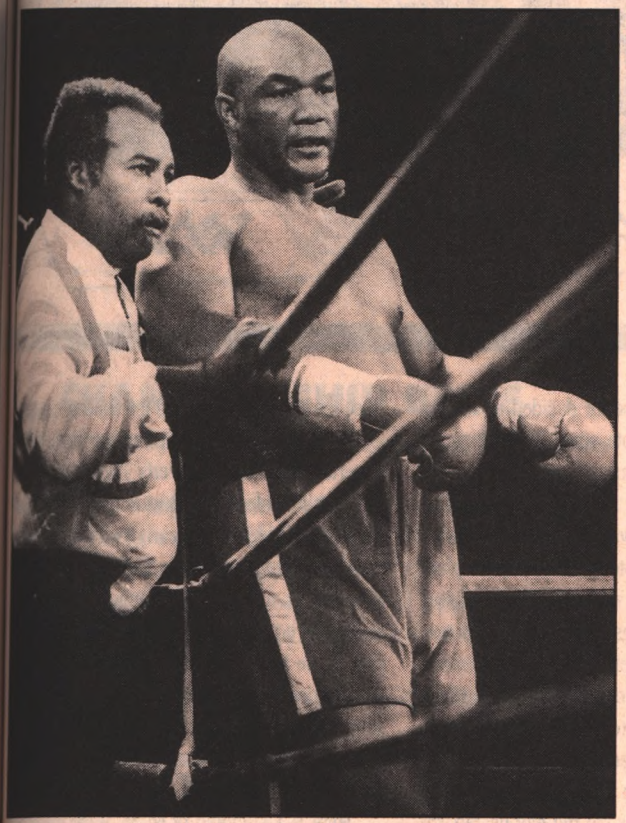
"Maybe Tyson is in the second tier, but there's a huge gap between the first and second tiers," he said. "I think he would've had difficulty with Tyson and *a lot* of difficulty with the first Foreman.

"The quality of opposition was lacking at the time of Tyson's reign. Tyson was a good fighter, and if he was a great fighter, it was only because of the caliber of heavyweights around. The fight with Douglas and the two with Razor Ruddock were evidence he wasn't a great fighter. Tony Tucker was probably the best fighter he faced. Trevor Berbick and Tyrell Thomas? Who the hell were they?"

As we went to press, Tyson hadn't yet announced his first comeback bout, but maybe it's not too early to ask who the hell Oliver McCall and Bruce Seldon are. Tyson's allegiance to promoter Don King all but guaranteed he'll attempt to regain at least a portion of the title by initially squaring off with WBC king McCall or WBA titlist Seldon, and not the most widely recognized heavyweight champion, IBF ruler George Foreman. Big George, who is promoted by Bob Arum and committed to HBO and the network's pay-per-view arm, TVKO, has repeatedly stated that as long as "Iron Mike" is fighting for King, a Foreman-Tyson showdown won't happen. (King's fights are televised by Showtime and its pay-per-view arm, SET.) However, in boxing, as in all of big business, money often helps facilitate miracle reconciliations, and Tyson-Foreman would be the richest fight in boxing history.

Even during his 3½-year absence, Tyson remained the most famous fighter in the world. As soon as he walked out of prison, he joined another

Were Tyson's give-and-take fights with Razor Ruddock evidence that he's no longer willing to emphasize defense? Toward the end of his first career, there were subtle changes in "Iron Mike's" style.



Should Tyson meet and beat George Foreman, will the victory enhance his reputation? A Foreman bout would certainly net Tyson a record purse. However, historians wouldn't be overly impressed.

comebacking Michael—Jordan—as the most famous athlete in the world. Victories in a tuneup or two will bring him untold millions. And triumphs over the likes of McCall and Seldon, and even Foreman, will again make him a world champion. But in the big picture, will all of that mean anything? After all, as the *Philadelphia Inquirer's* Robert Seltzer quipped at the press conference announcing Seldon, "If Tyson faces Seldon, it'll be the first time in history a heavyweight wins the world title in a tuneup fight."

"I don't think Tyson can move from the second tier to the first because there's no one for him to fight who can help him advance," said Fiske.

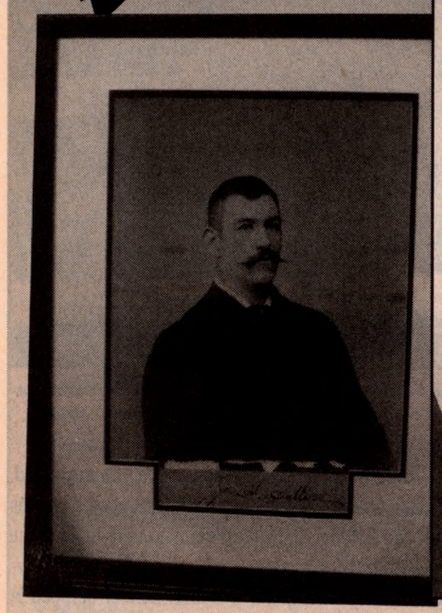
"In determining whether he can move up," said Futch, "you have to figure out who's gonna be there for him to fight. Those fighters may not even be on the scene yet."

Tyson is expected to rescue the division largely because in his absence, an assortment of pretenders failed to establish themselves as legitimate or long-term champions. Until he knocks out his former boss, McCall will be dismissed as Tyson's longtime sparring partner. Seldon may be regarded as the least-respected champion in division history. Foreman uplifted the entire sport by regaining the title with a one-punch knockout, but he's nearing 50, and from an artistic standpoint, his future is his past. Michael Moorer and Lennox Lewis were unbeaten and full of promise until kayo losses to Foreman and McCall, respectively, brought doubts about their commitment, not to mention their chins. And Evander Holyfield would have given Tyson a wicked fight the first time around, but now he's perceived as 32 going on 52.

Then there's Riddick Bowe, who is generally regarded as the best heavyweight in the world. But he hasn't regained the form or, some would

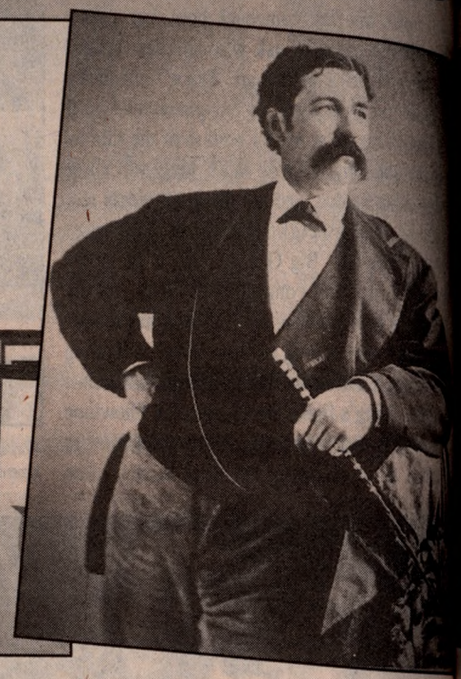
(Continued on page 55)

SOLD! THE BIGGEST MEMORABILIA AUCTION IN BOXING HISTORY



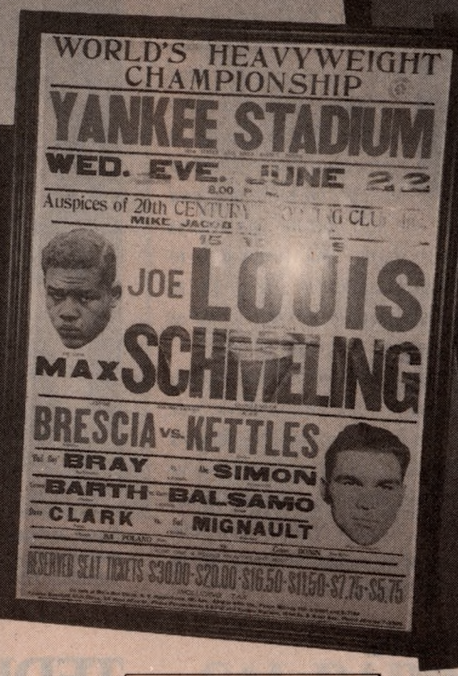
$1,668

$345-1,955

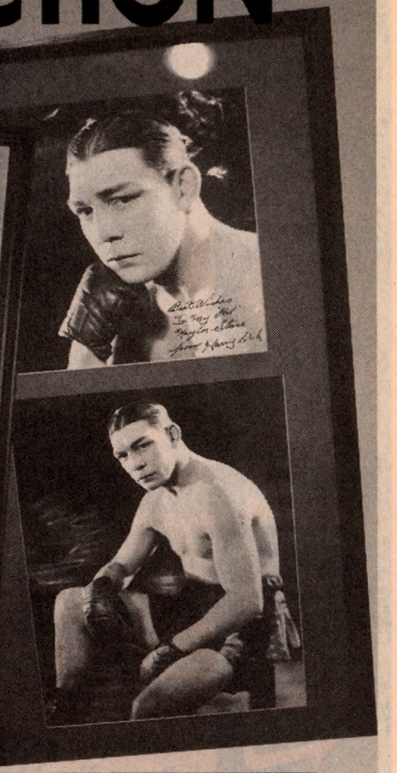


$1,208

$4,140



$4,600



$3,680

By Don Scott

Every sport has its heroes—and its premier collectors. If you've collected boxing memorabilia for any length of time, you've already heard of the one collection that is legendary. It belonged to a man named Duke Hott, who amassed this preeminent collection more than 25 years ago.

When Hott decided to sell his memorabilia two years ago, it was a major event, at least in the eyes of collectors. The money he secured for the mother lode was quite impressive; he sold the collection to Superior Stamp and Coin for approximately $1.2-million. Superior then tried to find a single buyer, but there were no takers. After an auction of a few lots in January 1994, Superior decided to auction off the remainder of the lots, some 700 of them, in one auction, with no minimum bids.

Hott's specialty was the display piece. If it didn't look good on the wall by itself, or couldn't be framed with a rare photo, or if it wasn't a piece of equipment or couldn't sit on a table, he passed on it. These sorts of things—large photos, gloves, robes, trunks, posters, belts, ad pieces, bronzes, etc., can be awesome to look at and very difficult to find. Most collectors are blessed if they have a few of these items. Hott had hundreds.

The auction was the most eagerly awaited event in the hobby, and as the big day neared, the heavyweight collectors gathered for the main event. It was presumed there would be lots of good buys since the hobby is small and the collection large.

But not everyone at the auction, held at Superior Galleries in Beverly Hills, was a hobbyist. A coin dealer from Boston drove many prices skyward by bidding on nearly every item. (He ultimately secured more than half the collection for himself.) As a result, the winning bids were about as high as could be expected. If a buyer wanted to prevail, he had to outlast this speculator, who had no experience in the hobby but who somehow reasoned that whatever he bid, the items were worth even more. It made for a interesting but frustrating day for many.

Here is a rundown of some of the major items and the winning bids. All prices include the auctioneer's 15 percent premium.

CHAMPIONSHIP BELTS

The authenticity of these items was not questioned, and the prices reflected this.

Joe Louis' THE RING magazine belt: $74,750
Hugo Corro's THE RING magazine belt: $2,300
James J. Braddock's THE RING magazine belt: $28,750
Sonny Liston's THE RING magazine belt (with added jewels): $28,750
Rocky Marciano's belt, presented by the president of The Philippines: $20,700
Sandy Saddler's belt, presented by the *Johannesburg Sunday Express*: $3,450

TROPHIES

Some of these items did not appear in the auction literature, and as a result did not fetch the prices they might have if accompanied by a letter of authentication or a photo in a vintage magazine.

Silver cup presented to John L. Sullivan: $9,775
Silver cup presented to James J. Corbett: $8,338
Silver cup presented to Jack Dempsey from Tex Rickard: $4,140
Silver cup presented to Jack Dempsey by the Elks in 1929: $1,208

ON-SITE FIGHT POSTERS

The older the better—and the pricier. Size made a difference, as did the significance of the fight. Condition, of course, was of critical importance.

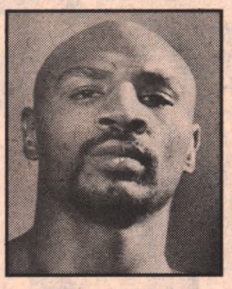
Louis-Schmeling II: $4,600
Dempsey-Cowboy Luttrell: $1,553
Louis-Burman: $1,495
Robinson-Graziano (laminated and mounted): $978

(Continued on page 55)

Middleweights

Marvin Hagler

Brockton, Massachusetts
Career: 1973-1987
62-3-2 with 52 kayos

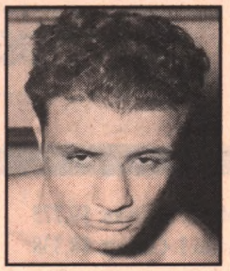


Hagler, it was often said, had three things working against him: He was black, he was a southpaw, and he was too good for his own good. Marvelous Marvin was a versatile fighter who had exceptional boxing and punching skills. Add the fact that he was always focused, always in top shape, and always able to absorb his opponent's best shot and it's easy to understand why he was, during his prime, ranked as one of the best two or three fighters in the game.

Hagler failed in his first title try, boxing to a disputed draw vs. Vito Antuofermo in 1979. Less than one year later, he took the crown by destroying Antuofermo's conqueror, Alan Minter, in three rounds. Twelve successful defenses followed, including wins over Thomas Hearns, Roberto Duran, Mustafa Hamsho, and John Mugabi. In the last bout of his career, he lost the title by split decision to Sugar Ray Leonard.

Jake LaMotta

Bronx, New York
Career: 1941-1954
83-19-4 with 30 kayos



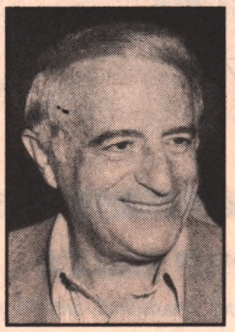
Driven by an inner rage, "The Bronx Bull" was one of boxing's angriest men. After brawling in the streets of New York City, he became a brawling contender who was a better boxer than given credit for. A short middleweight, LaMotta fought out of a crouch and relied on a steady attack and one of the greatest chins in history. A lack of political connections resulted in a lengthy wait for a shot at the world title, and as a result, he fought many of the fighters avoided by everyone else. For instance, LaMotta fought Sugar Ray Robinson six times. He won only once (in 1943), but was competitive in all their bouts.

Forever struggling to make weight, LaMotta won the world 160-pound crown by stopping Marcel Cerdan (KO 10) in 1949. He made two successful defenses, against Tiberio Mitri and Laurent Dauthuille, before losing the title to Robinson in the "St. Valentine's Day Massacre" of 1951. He went 5-4-1 over the remainder of his career.

Fight fans will forever debate the merits of champions who never met in the ring. In "Battle Of the Legends," the editors of THE RING *play matchmaker and pit two of the all-time greats against each other. Three experts serve as judges. If there are particular dream matches that you'd like to see featured, please write to us.*

Boxer or brawler? In 1950, LaMotta made his first defense of the world middleweight title, scoring a unanimous 15-round decision over substitute Tiberio Mitri at Madison Square Garden.

TEDDY BRENNER

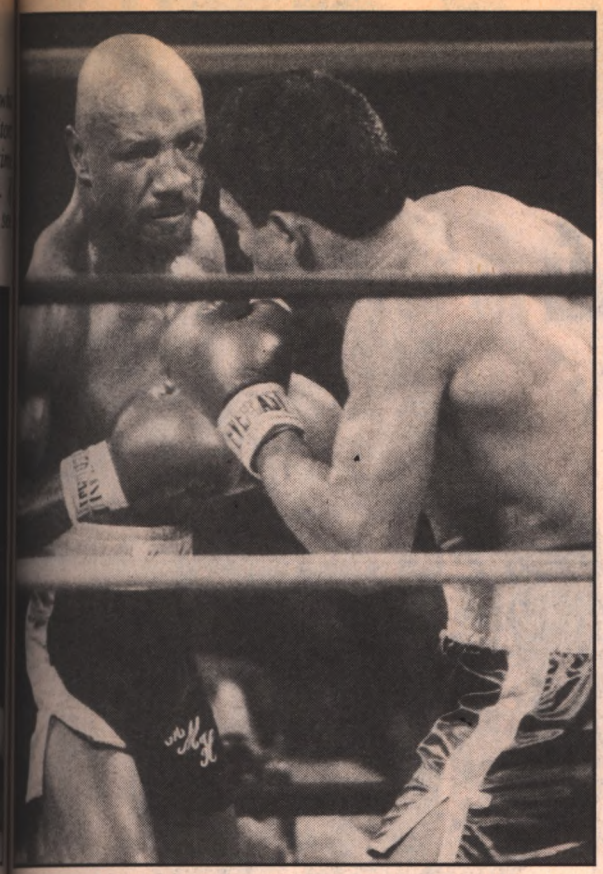


LaMotta was underrated as a boxer. When he fought Ray Robinson, he was able to [illegible] with him. He was a very versatile fighter. [illegible] times you'd even have called him a [illegible] Defensively, he gave you the top of his [illegible] and nothing else. He was a short fighter who made himself shorter. He tucked in his [illegible] and you had to punch down at him. He also took the best punch of anyone I ever saw. When he suffered his first knockdown against Danny Nardico, he was all done by then. And Nardico had him by about 15 pounds.

Hagler can be compared to LaMotta in that he had a great chin. He was also versatile. He could handle any style, as his record suggests, and he was a southpaw who was really ambidextrous. Hagler was a throwback to the fighters of the '40s and '50s. He would've held his own with the best of any era. He was a matchmaker's dream because you always knew you had a fight with him. During my years at Top Rank, he was one of my favorite fighters.

This is one of the matchups I wish I could have made. The fight would be katy-bar-the-door from the start. Both guys would walk to each other. When you think of the first Hagler-Antuofermo bout, you have to give LaMotta a slight edge. It would be a distance fight, with LaMotta winning by decision.

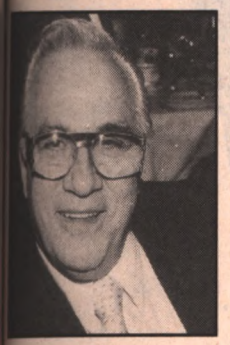
Teddy Brenner, who lives in New York City, is considered the great matchmaker in boxing history.



ike most outstanding champions, Hagler was better the second time round, as number-one contender Mustafa Hamsho discovered in their 984 rematch. Hagler won by third-round stoppage.

In his second defense, LaMotta registered one of the most dramatic victories in history, coming from behind in the last minute to halt France's Laurent Dauthuille at The Olympia in Detroit.

AL CERTO



In LaMotta's mind, he actually believed nobody could lick him, and that worked in his favor. He was just a tough sonuvabitch. He had durability, and he was much harder to hit than it looked. Stylewise, it would seem he would be made to order for Hagler, but I don't think Hagler would be able to put up with the bodyshots and pressure LaMotta would apply.

I hate to put a guy down, but Hagler wasn't the middleweight everyone thinks he was. He licked everybody, but if you ompare him to the middleweights of yesteryear, he was just another fighter. think Joey Giardello would've put him in his hip pocket. Hagler was a busy ighter and a southpaw, which made him more difficult, and he was good nough to beat the talent that was around. The first time Mustafa Hamsho ought him, he didn't know who Hagler was so he went in with his face. He hought he was fighting Betty Boop. The second time he wanted to box, but is legs were gone and he was already shot.

Hagler didn't have the style to box LaMotta. To have a chance to win, e'd have to punch with him. Neither guy would take a backward step. The ate rounds would be the key. Hagler had a good chin, so it would probably o the distance. LaMotta by close decision.

Al Certo managed Mustafa Hamsho, who lost world title bouts to Hagler in 1981 and '84. Certo currently handles two-division former world champion Buddy McGirt.

SAL RAPPA

This would be a match made in heaven. Both Hagler and LaMotta were great middleweights in their respective times. Hagler was the superior stand-off boxer on the outside and perhaps the harder puncher, while LaMotta clearly had the better chin and was the more efficient infighter. Their fight would be a war.

Hagler sometimes had a difficult time with aggressive fighters. This was proven in his first title fight with Vito Antuofermo. Antuofermo, who was really a blown-up welterweight, had a move-forward, take-charge style, and he held Hagler to a draw. As for LaMotta, his six very close fights with the great Sugar Ray Robinson serve as testimony to his boxing ability.

I see LaMotta moving forward and applying a great deal of pressure against sharpshooter Hagler. Marvelous Marvin would do well on the outside, scoring points from his southpaw stance, but not being able to hurt "The Bronx Bull." In turn, LaMotta would score heavily during the inside fighting. I believe LaMotta fought in a much tougher era, and the competition he faced would give him a small edge. Ultimately, his aggressive style would enable him to win a hard-fought and close 15-round decision.

Sal Rappa is a Long Island-based boxing historian. He is on the voting committee of the International Boxing Hall of Fame and works as a consultant for HBO.

Boxer And Lawyer-To-Be

BARRERA FOR THE DEFENSE ... AND THE OFFENSE, TOO

By Ed Maloney

Barring a serious injury or a shattering defeat, world-class fighters don't reach the crossroads of their careers until they realize that age has forever robbed them of the skills and attributes that made them champions. Or when promoters no longer consider them main event material. It appeared to most boxing observers that junior featherweight Marco Antonio Barrera had more than a few years to go before he would have to worry whether or not his career hung in the balance. But the talented 21-year-old shocked those who attended the postfight press conference following his one-sided win over Daniel Jimenez. The bout was for the spurious WBO title, and Barrera said he had accomplished one of his two lifetime goals and was calling it a career.

"I always wanted to be a world champion fighter and a lawyer," he said. "I've become a world champion. I'm so happy. Nothing could be better than this. Now I want to resume my law studies at the University of Mexico City."

A boxer not just wanting to be a lawyer, but actually enrolling in law school? What's the world coming to? That this was being said in the earlier hours of April 1 was lost on his audience. But it was no joke. Most boxers, at some time during their careers, need the services of a lawyer. If that's not breaking the mold, what is?

Becoming an officer of the court, however, isn't the only mold that Barrera wants to break. He's proud to be a champion representing the still-suspect WBO. Like a forceful prosecutor, Barrera said, "It's the champion that makes the organization."

In the hours after Barrera's crowning achievement, his manager, Ricardo Maldonado, trainer Rudy Perez, and a few others in the camp *talked* to the fighter. A day later, Barrera was at a press conference announcing his first defense would be in June against Frankie Toledo.

"I realized that a lot of people worked very hard to get me this title shot," he said. "And I owe it to them to continue."

Photo by Holly Stein/Allsport

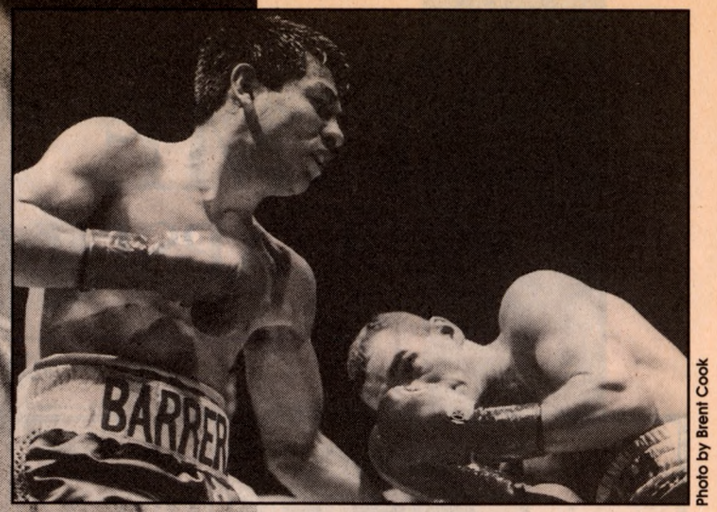
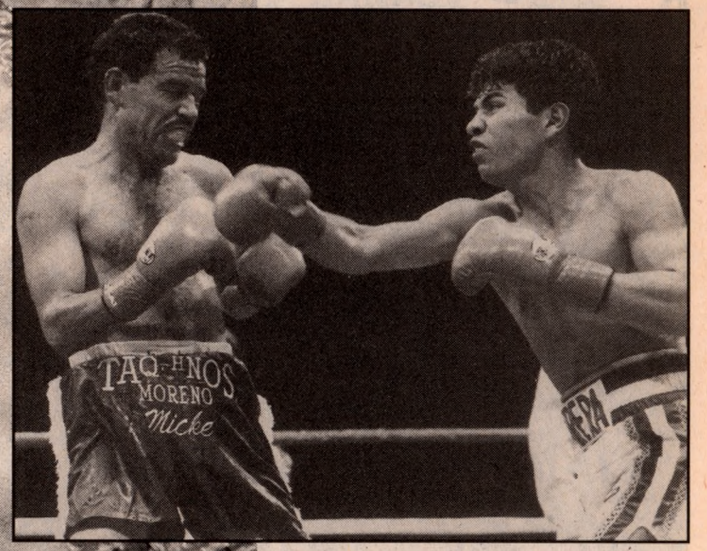


Photo by Brent Cook

In compiling a sterling record of 35-0 (24), Barrera has beaten a wide variety of opponents, including world-class Puerto Rican Daniel Jimenez (above) and countryman Miguel Espinoza (below), who was kayoed in six rounds.



His performance the prior evening at the Arrowhead Pond in Anaheim, California, had left few doubters. Barrera improved to 35-0 (24) by scoring a unanimous decision over Puerto Rico's Jimenez (scores of 116-111, 115-112, and 117-110). THE RING scored for Barrera by 117-111.

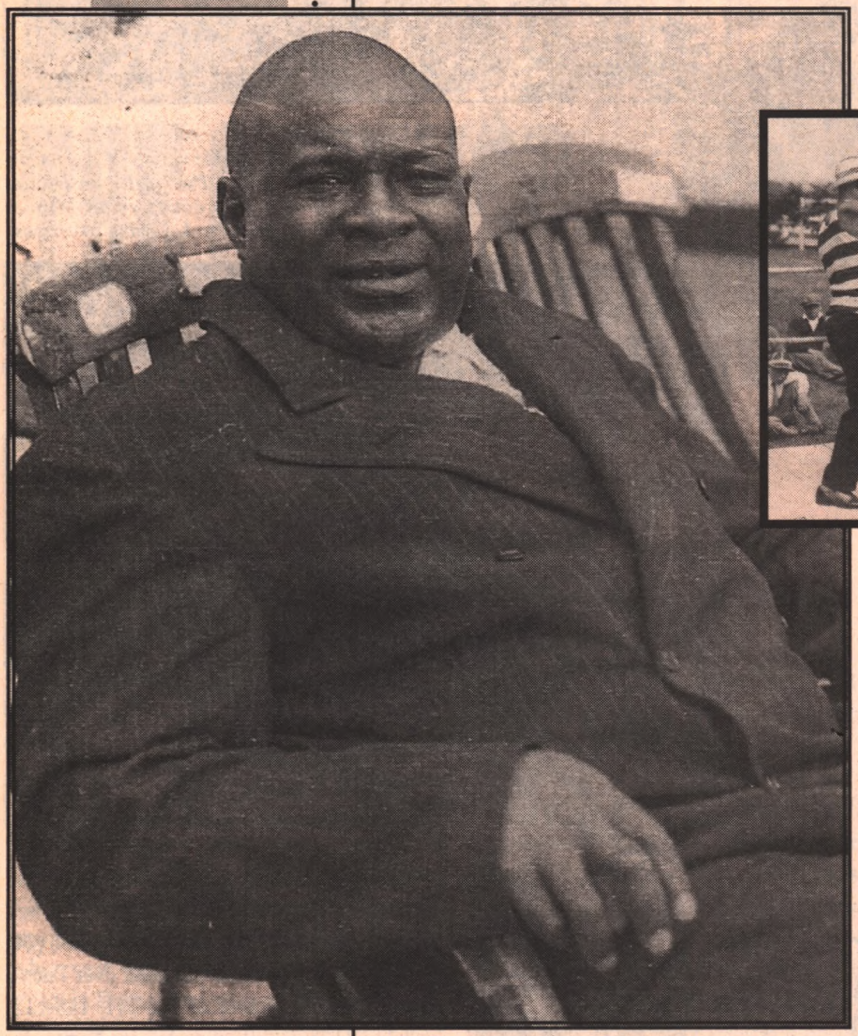
The challenger dominated the first six rounds, landing combinations that rocked Jimenez, 19-4-1 (10) with 1 no-contest, on several occasions. The two clashed heads many times; in the first, Barrera was cut over the right eye, and in the sixth, referee Raul Caiz (USA) deducted a point from the Mexican. But Barrera was undeterred. He patiently and effectively took it to a champion who was content to dance

(Continued on page 56)

By Stanley Weston
Publisher, THE RING Magazine

TIME CAPSULES

NOT JUST LOOKALIKES



Big George Godfrey, age 42, in retirement in 1943. Inset: Godfrey, who was Jack Dempsey's favorite sparring partner for many years, prepares for a sparring session with "The Manassa Mauler" in 1927, when the former champion was training for his second fight with Gene Tunney. Godfrey and Dempsey became close friends, and when George died in 1947, Jack flew from New York to Los Angeles to deliver the eulogy at the funeral.

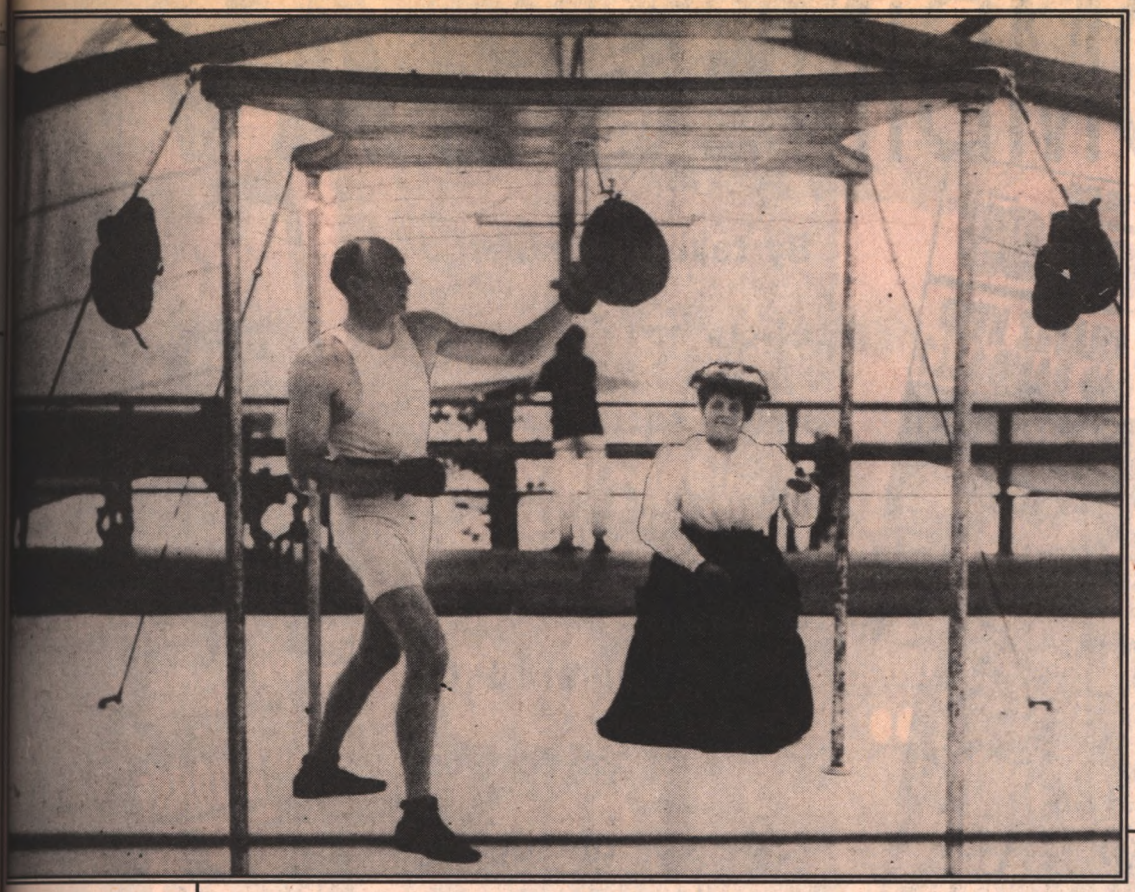
(May 1945)

Ask any fight bug to name the guy in this picture. Chances are he'll shoot back without hesitation, it's "George Foreman. Now give me a *hard* one." The picture fools 'em almost every time. But at least they get the first part right. It's George, all right. But not Foreman. Try Godfrey. George Godfrey. Now you've got it, by George.

Huge power plants packed into Herculean physiques, these two had a lot more in common than first names. Godfrey came in at around 240 pounds in his prime. Between fights he routinely ballooned to 350. God only knows what the number might have been were there McDonald's golden arches on every corner back in the '20s and '30s. Where Foreman is addicted to hamburgers, Godfrey's obsessions were fried chicken with mushroom gravy, ham hocks, and mountains of grits floating on seas of butter. Not surprising considering he weighed 13 pounds at birth (in Mobile, Alabama), which is about what the current IBF heavyweight champ checked in at (in Marshall, Texas, which ain't all that far from Mobile). Their birthdays are hauntingly close: Godfrey, January 25, and Foreman, January 22. Of course, the 48-year spread in years of birth is something else (1901 to 1949).

Like Foreman, Godfrey was jovial, generous, always smiling, always cracking jokes. Damon Runyon pinned the "Jolly Black Giant" tag on him that stuck till the day he died. But by far the most important similarity between this pair of Georges is the way they handled themselves at work. Both were remarkably fast for huge men, both packed lethal power, and both were notably durable and courageous. Godfrey's career spanned 17 years, with about 100 recorded fights, of which he won 89 (75 by knockout). He lost only 14 times (six on fouls).

Foreman, 46, has been warring 26 years (with 10 years off, of course), and is still going strong. Godfrey's career span, though pale by comparison, was nonetheless exceptional. The jolly giant was 36 when he finally called it quits in 1937.



With buxom wife Rosie watching like a hawk, Bob Fitzsimmons works his 39-year-old stringbean body into shape at his Skaggs Springs, California, training camp as he gets ready for his heavyweight title fight with champion Jim Jeffries. Rosie is sitting so close to the platform, it appears that if Fitz missed the bag, her head might wind up in the Pacific Ocean behind her.

HAWK-EYED ROSIE

(July 2, 1902)

One of two things had to be on Bob Fitzsimmons' mind when this picture was taken: *I wish that woman would go away*, or, *It just wouldn't feel right if she wasn't here with me*. Of course, we'll never know the answer. But we do know that buxom Rose (Rosie) Fitzsimmons, Bob's second of four wives, was either overly possessive of her famous spouse, overprotective, or insanely jealous. No matter where Bob went, Rose was sure to go. Martin Julian, Fitzsimmons' longtime manager, was overheard complaining—off the record—to a journalist crony, "The only place Robert is free is when he's in the toilet ... and I can't be sure of that, either."

The picture was taken on a balmy summer morning at Bob's training camp at Skaggs Springs, California, about 70 miles north of San Francisco, in what is today plush Sonora wine country, where the cool Pacific breezes rarely allow the temperature to rise above 70 degrees. Everybody agreed more than 100 years ago, as they still do today, that the climate just can't get any better than this. Everybody, that is, except Rosie, who complained, "It's much too cold." Julian had a snide comment about that, too: "She complains it's too cold because it gives her an excuse to stick close to Robert. She wants him to keep her warm. All the time."

Three weeks later, Rosie was right there at ringside in the historic San Francisco Athletic Club, her shrill voice bellowing encouragement ("You've got him now, Bob!") as her 172-pound hero brutalized the burly 219-pound defending heavyweight champion of the world, James J. Jeffries, throughout the first six rounds of their bout. Fitz was seemingly a cinch to regain the crown he had lost to Jeffries three years before. But not even an army of cheering Rosies could have rekindled the flame in the challenger's 39-year-old body after the sixth round, or prevented him from being counted out by referee Ed Graney in the eighth.

But even in defeat, this lanky Cornishman, with more freckles covering his anemic-looking physique than hairs on his head, was again the focus of tumultuous accolades. And rightfully so. Against Jeffries, acknowledged to be the strongest of all heavyweight champions, Fitzsimmons gave away 47 pounds and 12 years. And when they left the ring, winner Jeffries looked like he'd been hit by a locomotive, with deep cuts above and below both eyes, fractured right cheekbone, mouth ripped on the right side, double-nose fracture, and reddish-blue welts from neck to waistline. As for "loser" Fitzsimmons, there was complete exhaustion, which was complicated by a buxom woman's arms hanging around his freckled neck.

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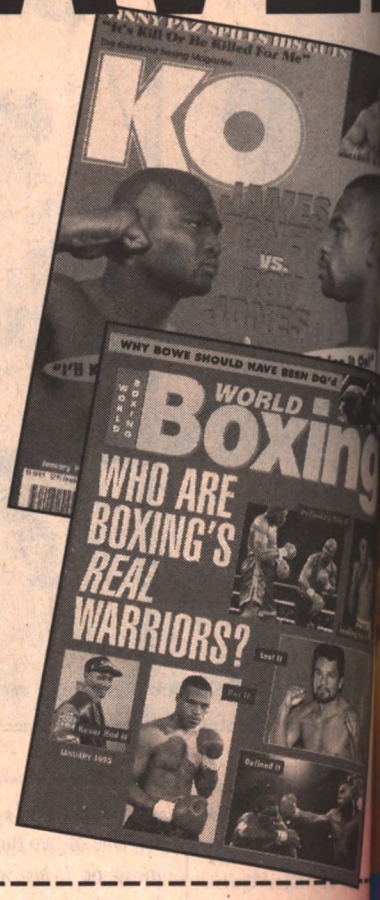

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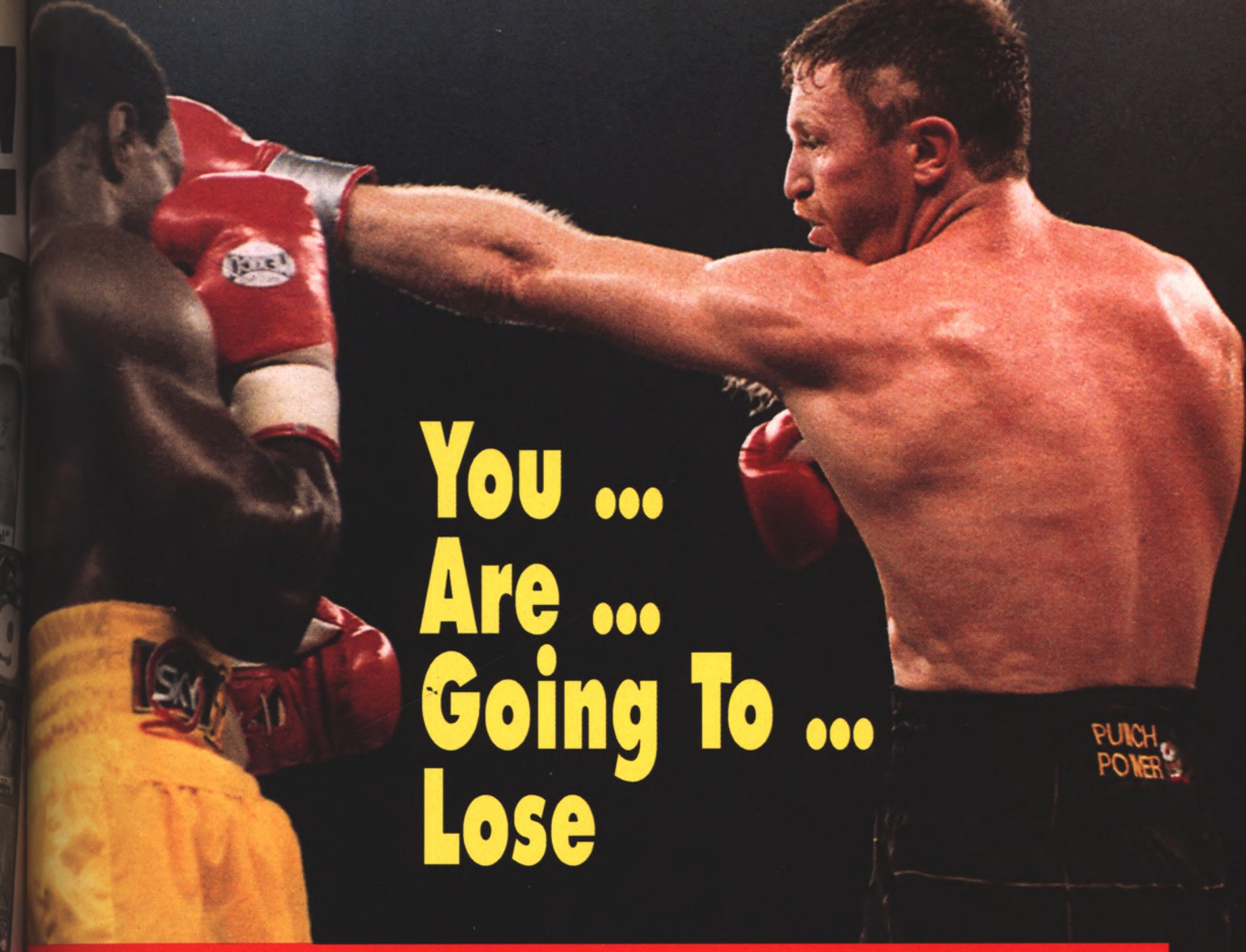


STEVE COLLINS PUTS CHRIS EUBANK UNDER HIS SPELL

Photos by Steve Munday/Allsport

Brian Doogan

Psychology is a more crucial element in boxing than in any other sport. It has significance, of course, in all physical endeavor, but not to the extent to which it can be applied inside the bare confines of a boxing ring.

Pro footballers, rugby players, motor racing drivers, even golfers all use psychological ploys in an attempt to gain even a perceived advantage over an opponent. But none of these sportsmen are subjected to the sustained levels of distress experienced by a prize fighter. None is asked to operate dexterously while blows designed to scramble the brain are being fired repeatedly at the head. They do not have to remain cool while potential calamity looms. They do not have to claim their victory while their very being is under siege.

Because of the directness of boxing, because a boxer is pitting his wits against another in the most brutal and dangerous of sporting predicaments, the slightest gaining of an edge, *any* edge, can irrevocably swing a match one way or the other. Muhammad Ali may have been the master in the ring, but he nonetheless chose to weave his spell of psychology over prospective and immediate opponents. It was as much his ability to convince George Foreman in Zaire through word of mouth that he just could not be hurt as it was remarkable powers of recovery that resulted in his improbable and thrilling victory to reclaim the heavyweight title. After failing to out-macho Roberto Duran in Montreal, Sugar Ray Leonard used psychology to disrobe "Hands Of Stone" of his invincibility during their rematch. And most of Mike Tyson's opponents, at least prior to Buster Douglas, approached their clash showing all the enthusiasm associated with an appointment with the Grim Reaper.

Clearly, the mind is as effective a tool in boxing as a swift left hook delivered by a glove stuffed with sheets of steel. Enigmatic Englishman Chris Eubank would agree to this, for he recently stated that "boxing is 85 percent psychology and 15 percent durability." The irony of this statement is that when he engaged in mind games with Dubliner Steve Collins in the run-up to their super middleweight dispute at

Millstreet in County Cork—they fought for Eubank's lightly regarded WBO belt—Eubank was left spluttering in the starting blocks.

"His psychological warfare started from the beginning," said Collins. "He walked up to a podium at the press conference which announced the fight and stood there for about a minute until the room was dead-quiet. He then spoke just three words, 'Steve gets beaten,' and sat down again. That was a form of hypnosis. That got everyone's attention and was especially intended to get mine.

"But I couldn't accept that. I challenged him about how he was going to do that and told him, 'You won't beat me,' which he wasn't prepared for. However, if I had left it at that without speaking, he would have had the upper hand."

A bitter tirade ensued in which Collins accused Eubank of "forgetting his African roots" by trying to become the epitome of "English uppishness." Eubank regarded these remarks as racist and claimed he had "never been so insulted in all my life."

"This is now kill or be killed," retorted Eubank.

Unwilling to allow his opponent to win this important pre-fight battle, Collins, taking a cue from Nigel Benn, announced that he had made the decision to fight Eubank while in a hypnotic trance.

Just three weeks earlier, Benn, following his unbelievable triumph over the ill-fated Gerald McClellan, proclaimed in a postfight interview on British television that he had been hypnotized prior to the bout in an attempt to overcome the turmoil caused by the breakup of his marriage some weeks previously, and not specifically to psych himself up for the McClellan encounter, as had been initially believed.

Collins' declaration, however, struck a deep chord with Eubank, whose immediate reaction was to declare, "It's off."

"I'm not going to tangle with someone who is not in control of his senses," he said. "How will he know when to quit? This is a terrible situation I have been put in."

In an effort to boost returns from the box office on the eve of championship bouts, such pronouncements are frequent enough. This would not explain Eubank's behavior here, though, because the fight was sold out weeks in advance. A more plausible interpretation is that Eubank has never been able to discard the emotional baggage acquired after his second meeting with Michael Watson, which rendered his vanquished foe confined to a wheelchair. The prevailing thought is that Eubank lost his edge as a consequence; he lost the desire to hurt a man to that degree again, and so lost a vital ingredient in the constitution of a fighter.

"Only Chris Eubank's psychologist could answer that," expressed *Irish Times* boxing writer Sean Kilfeather, who keenly watched the dramatic developments of the final Eubank-Collins press conference. "It is quite possible, but I doubt even if Chris Eubank knows himself. We [reporters] hung around for two hours after he left the stage to try and speak to him, but he left through the back door. I think his reaction was genuine because I cannot see the logic in him getting so worked up otherwise."

The combined counseling of promoter Barry Hearn and the fighter's trainer, Ronnie Davis, convinced Eubank to change his mind, but in an interview with British satellite channel Sky Sports on the day of the fight, he reiterated his reluctance to proceed with the bout.

Eubank's ring entrances can be rather intimidating. Wary of his rival's mind games, Collins wisely countered by simply closing his eyes and turning up the volume on his Walkman.

"I am not happy with the situation because there is a real possibility this man could be hurt," he asserted. "I don't want to go through with it, but I cannot walk away. I will face it like a man."

The anxiety that clouded Eubank's mind as fight time beckoned could have been immediately dispelled by one simple disclosure: Collins was being underhanded and had perpetrated this deception to release demons of doubt

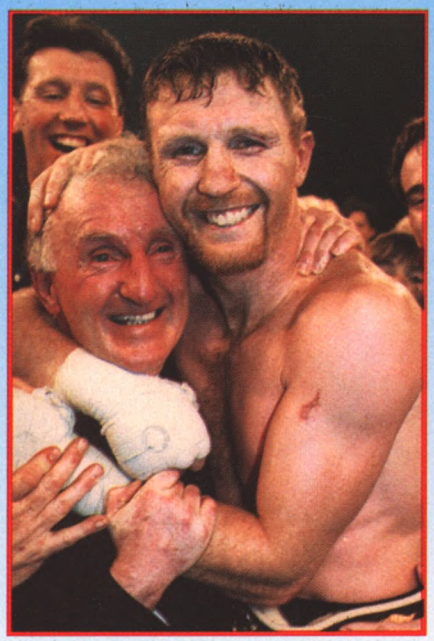
A very focused Collins was able to elude Eubank's blows for most of the fight. The Dubliner's only moment of concern came in the 10th round, when a right hand to the midsection dropped him for a count on nine. It was the biggest win of Collins' career.

Eubank's rationale. This unprecedented tactic persuaded Britain's *Boxing News* to emblazon "King Con" on its front page over a photo of Collins a week after the most significant victory of his professional career.

"It definitely wasn't a con job," Collins subsequently insisted. "It was reality. The word 'con' shouldn't be brought to it at all. All I did was get in touch with Tony Quinn [a psychologist based in Dublin] to ask for his assistance. What he had to offer was beyond what I expected, and it benefited me greatly. He can work with anybody, but the person needs to have the capability and the potential in the first place.

"I could get my grandmother and hypnotize her and tell her she's going to stop Mike Tyson, but in reality she wouldn't. Tony made suggestions to me, and it was up to me to absorb them. A person who is hypnotized is under the control of someone else, but that wasn't the case with me."

Added Quinn, "Some of the things which were written afterward were fairly silly. It was almost as if poor Steve must be in some kind of trance and he'll wake up in about an hour from now, which, of course, wasn't the case at all. What I did was help him develop his mind to its potential. I stressed the importance of concentrating on his peak moments in the ring to bring out the best in him."



Afterward, Collins celebrated with his father. While the smiling super middleweight would be a huge underdog against IBF champion Roy Jones, he'd like that fight very much.

Collins was focused like he had never been before, and now has the opportunity to demonstrate to others what he knew he was capable of for years.

"I needed a big name to elevate me to the level I should have been at many years ago," he explained. "Of the big names, I was looking for Benn or Eubank or any of the established stars. For me to break into the big league, I needed to beat one of these guys, but it's very hard to beat them when they're not even willing to fight you."

Faced with no alternative following the withdrawal of Ireland's Ray Close due to abnormalities detected during a routine CAT-scan,

(Continued on page 54)

JUST YOUR AVERAGE FIVE-TITLE FIGHT CARD IN LAS VEGAS

By Robert Seltzer

On a night when the hottest heavyweight in the world was a no-show—you know, the former inmate and future billionaire—boxing fans settled for Larry Holmes and Oliver McCall, a man who was once a great fighter vs. a man who was once a great sparring partner.

It was on April 8 in the outdoor arena at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas, and the result was, sadly, predictable—a heavyweight title fight that was intriguing only for the guile displayed by Holmes. The 45-year-old grandfather—16 years older and about 32 years smarter than the champion—almost pulled off the kind of miracle George Foreman, then also 45, performed last November, when he pounded Michael Moorer to become the oldest heavyweight champion in history. But no, there would be no fairy tale endings on this night. Not for Holmes and not for his beloved sport.

"McCall says he'll knock me out in two rounds," Holmes had said two weeks before the fight. "Is he on dope or something?"

Ironically, Holmes fought better in defeat than Foreman had in victory, but then "Big George" boasted one thing that Holmes lacked—a lightning bolt of a punch that can send a champion back to four-rounders in Tulsa. Holmes was trickier than McCall, jabbing and holding throughout the early rounds, but his aging body finally sabotaged his agile mind. If you want to cheat Father Time, it helps to have a knockout punch.

Before the WBC title match, the fans chanted, "We want Mike! We want Mike!", a reference, of course, to Mike Tyson, who was released on March 25 after a three-year sentence for rape. Fresh from signing a multimillion-dollar deal with Showtime and the MGM Grand, Tyson had been in town all week, attracting gawkers wherever he went. ("Look, there goes Tyson!") Reporters lost their dignity—not a challenging task, to be sure—in chasing the former champion from shop to shop, trying to find out what he had bought. Tyson is still not talking to the press, so the resourceful group relied on—what else?—rumors. The stories had him buying everything from four BMWs (or was it five?) to a "palace" in the desert.

Nobody seemed to know for sure what Tyson had purchased, but McCall was another matter. He bought himself a $750 Versace shirt that he modeled at the prefight press conference—a red, white, black, green, yellow, and purple number that looked as if the champion had

WBC heavyweight champion Oliver McCall pummels Larry Holmes during the ninth round of their title fight at the MGM Grand in Las Vegas. Despite the fact that he retained the crown, it was McCall's only impressive round.

Photo by Holly Stein/Allsport

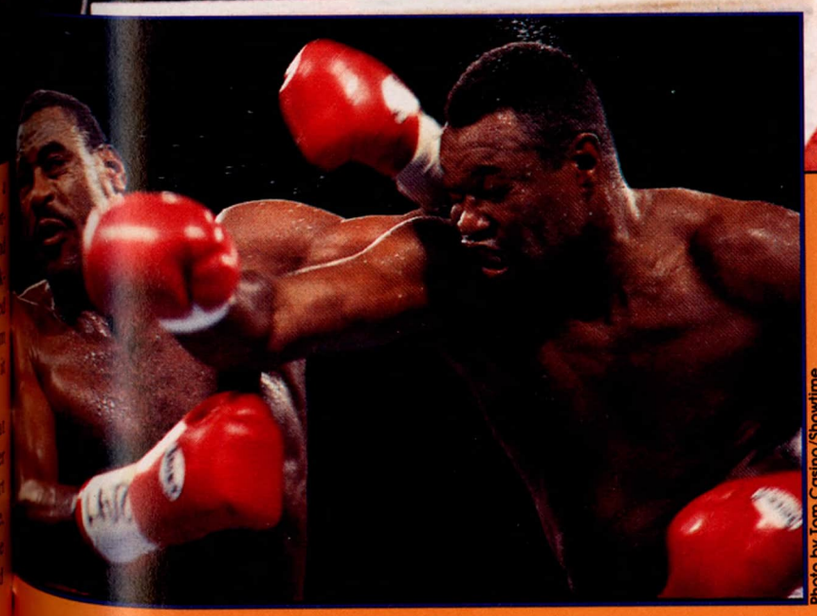


Photo by Tom Casino/Showtime

Acting his age, the 45-year-old Holmes fought only part of each round, and as a result enjoyed limited offensive success. He did, however, occasionally score with his big right hand.

brushed against a freshly painted Peter Max original. Unfortunately, it was the most colorful and exciting he would look all week, in or out of the ring.

Ah, yes, the ring. For nine rounds McCall, 231, Chicago, looked dreadful against Holmes, 236, Easton, Pennsylvania, becoming so frustrated that he would stop punching and walk away from the challenger. Promoter Don King

sprinted up to the champion's corner after the sixth round, yelling at McCall, "Don't mess around and blow this fight, brother."

Who could blame King if his spirits were as low as his hair was high? After all, he promotes McCall, and the McCall-Holmes match was, more than anything, part of an elimination tournament for an eventual title bout with Tyson. King wanted to preserve his chances for what will be the biggest money fight in history—if it comes off.

Not to worry, Mr. King. McCall, 26-5 (18), turned the fight around in the ninth, opening a cut under the challenger's left eye and hammering him so thoroughly that two of the judges scored it a 10-8 round. Holmes, 61-5 (40), never recovered, although the unanimous decision was razor-thin. Chuck Giampa scored 115-112, Tomotsu Tomihara 115-114, and Barbara Perez 114-113. All three judges are from the USA. The referee was Richard Steele (USA). It was McCall's first defense. It's anticipated his next fight will come against Frank Bruno.

"I fell short of my goals, and it's time to give it up," said Holmes, who has five children and two grandchildren. "But I don't want anyone feeling sorry for me. Boxing has been good to me. Boxing doesn't owe me anything. I owe boxing everything.

"I have money. As long as there's bad guys in this world, I'll be all right. Remember, I own the building that houses the federal courthouse and the jail in Easton."

As for McCall, he took an opportunity to rip Tyson after the fight.

"I'm tired of everybody talking about Mike Tyson this and Mike Tyson that," he said. "Mike Tyson is out [of prison], and he's a good friend of mine. But he's not the champion. I am. When Mike Tyson is ready, he can come to me. I'm not going to bother knocking on his door."

Maybe not, but he is certainly hoping Tyson knocks on his.

***

With so many guys gunning for "Iron Mike," it was no surprise that there were two other hopefuls in the Tyson Sweepstakes on the card: Bruce Seldon and Tony Tucker fought for the vacant WBA heavyweight title.

Seldon, 32-3 (28), fought a smart fight—smarter than most critics might have given him credit for. He strafed his opponent with a crisp jab, moving laterally throughout the match. "The Atlantic City Express," as he was known before Riddick Bowe knocked him off the rails via first-round kayo four years ago, took some hard shots, but he fought back each time, firing quick combinations before darting away.

Ahead on all three cards, Seldon, 236, Atlantic City, stopped Tucker, 243, Grand Rapids, Michigan, after the seventh round, when ringside physician Flip Homansky determined that the 36-year-old Tucker was too battered to continue. It was a wise move. With his mouth bleeding and his left eye closing, Tucker, 52-5 (43) with 1 no-contest, boasted the kind of face that only Lon Chaney could love.

Nevertheless, King tried to manufacture controversy. The promoter, hoping to stage a rematch, said the doctor stopped the fight because he erroneously thought Tucker had suffered a broken nose. As it turned out, X-rays revealed the nose had indeed been broken. It was a phony flap anyway because Homansky, concerned about the nose, said it was Tucker's eye that led him to advise referee Mills (USA) to stop the fight.

"He was gradually losing vision out of the eye," Homansky said. "I was more concerned for his eye than for his title ... Lord willing, Tony can come back and fight again."

Apparently, he will do just that—against Seldon.

"Hey, we're not surprised," said a friend of the champion. "Tucker is promoted by King."

Then, again, so is Seldon, so go figure.

The judges were Duane Ford, Art Lurie, and Roth, all from the USA.

***

In the wildest bout of the card, WBC super welterweight champion Luis Santana became the first man in almost 60 years, or since middleweight champion Marcel Thil in the mid-, to win back-to-back title fights by disqualification.

Emphasis on *back-to-back*. Santana, 153, New York City via Dominican Republic, defeated Terry Norris, 153, Campo, California, even though he ended up on a stretcher, as flat as a cardboard cut-out, just as he had against the same opponent last November in Mexico City. Norris whacked Santana on the back of the head in the fifth round of the first fight, an illegal blow that cost him the title. This time, Norris cracked him in the jaw, but he did it after the bell had rung to end the third round.

It was an outrageous—and stupid—move. Norris, 38-6 (23), was winning handily, having floored his opponent—legally—in both the second and third rounds. Santana, 40-15-2 (29), was ready to fall again at any moment; a jab might have done the trick. But at least five seconds after the bell ending the round, and with referee Kenny Bayless (USA) standing between the two men after admonishing Santana for an infraction, Norris threw a chopping right that floored the champion.

The fans were stunned. Santana lay on the canvas for about five minutes, with paramedics giving him oxygen before carrying him out. He was taken to Valley View Hospital, where he was released the next morning.

The judges were Cliff Heaver (Australia), Dave Moretti (USA), and Omar Mintun (Mexico).

"I didn't know the round was over," Norris

Photos by Tom Casino/Showtime

Though fighting with a five-inch reach disadvantage, Seldon piled up points with a hard, quick jab (above). When the fight was stopped because of injuries to Tucker's face, Seldon, overcome with emotion, looked the part of a kayo loser (right).

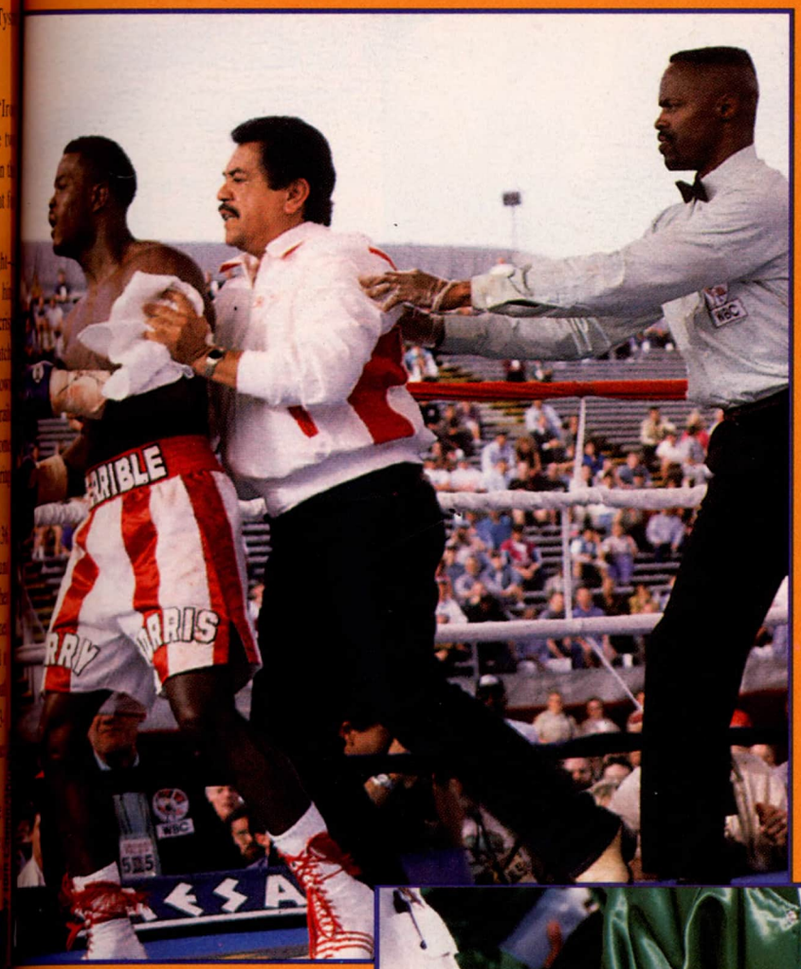


Photo by Teddy Blackburn

Chaos in the ring: Norris has just floored Santana with a punch that landed well after the bell ending the third round (left). For the second time in two fights, Santana, the winner and still champion, left the ring on a stretcher (below).

Photo by Tom Casino/Showtime

Chavez may have lost some of his skills, but as Italian challenger Parisi discovered, "J.C. Superstar" is still capable of unleashing a savage body attack.

said before the fight. "Their hero is going to lose."

Chavez, 93-1-1 (76), hit his opponent every where but the ankles—in the cup, the shoulders, the elbows, the neck. And, oh, yes, the ribs and the jaw. "J.C. Superstar" floored the challenger with a short jab to the chin in the second round and Parisi, 29-2 (21), who was already backpedaling, started to sprint.

"It was not the Parisi that I know out there," said Giovanni Boccolini, who trains the Italian. "He did not box up to his ability. There was a lot of pressure on him to beat Chavez. It was clear after the fourth round that Chavez was going to win."

Hmmm, Boccolini must have missed the first three rounds.

"If he hadn't run so much, I feel I could have knocked him out," Chavez said.

Terry Smith scored 120-107, and both Lou Filippo and Carol Castellano 118-109. The referee was Joe Cortez. All four officials are from the USA.

***

Former light heavyweight champion Eddie Mustafa Muhammad, who trains Roger Turner, provided the funniest line of the night, albeit unintentionally.

He said Turner, 1[illegible] Indianapolis, Indiana, was following his game plan brilliantly against Felix Trinidad, [illegible] Cupey Alto, Puerto Rico. If the plan was to get whacked in the second round. The 2[illegible] year-old Trinidad, retaining his IBF welterweight title for the sixth time, scored a TKO at 2[illegible] of the round, starting the assault with a left hook that floored the challenger, then finishing it with a combination that left him [illegible] ering up on the ropes and brought the intervention of [illegible] eree Mitch Halpern (USA).

Trinidad advanced to 2[illegible] (22), and Turner fell to 2[illegible] (17). The judges were Sa[illegible] Conde (Puerto Rico), Wi[illegible] James (USA), and Bill Gr[illegible] (USA).

"He can punch a little b[illegible] Turner said.

That was the second funn[illegible] line of the night.

***Robert Seltzer** covers [illegible] ing for the Philadelphia [illegible] quirer.*

said. "I didn't hear the bell."

It appeared to be a lame excuse, and it may have done irreparable harm to a career that seemed on the slide anyway. Santana will never give him another rematch, and Norris may be hard-pressed to get a title shot against anyone else. All in all, it looks like a desperate situation for a man who once touted himself as the greatest fighter, pound-for-pound, in the world.

"I think Norris should be banned for life from boxing," said Grant Elvis Phillips, who manages Santana. "To win this way, I am sick to my stomach. Our plan was to get him in the later rounds. This is not how we wanted to win. We'll never fight him again. F___ him."

***

Julio Cesar Chavez did not need any illegal blows, although he threw plenty of them, to defeat Giovanni Parisi and retain the WBC super lightweight title by unanimous decision. It was the third defense of his second reign.

Once the greatest fighter, pound-for-pound, in the world, Chavez, 140, Culiacan, Mexico, may not be the boxer he once was, but he still has enough to defeat a man who runs better than he fights. Parisi, 139, Vibo Valencia, Italy, talked a good game before the match, and if his cornermen had laced up his mouth, the 1988 Olympic gold medalist might have had a chance. Instead, they laced up his fists.

"I feel sorry for all the Mexicans," Parisi had

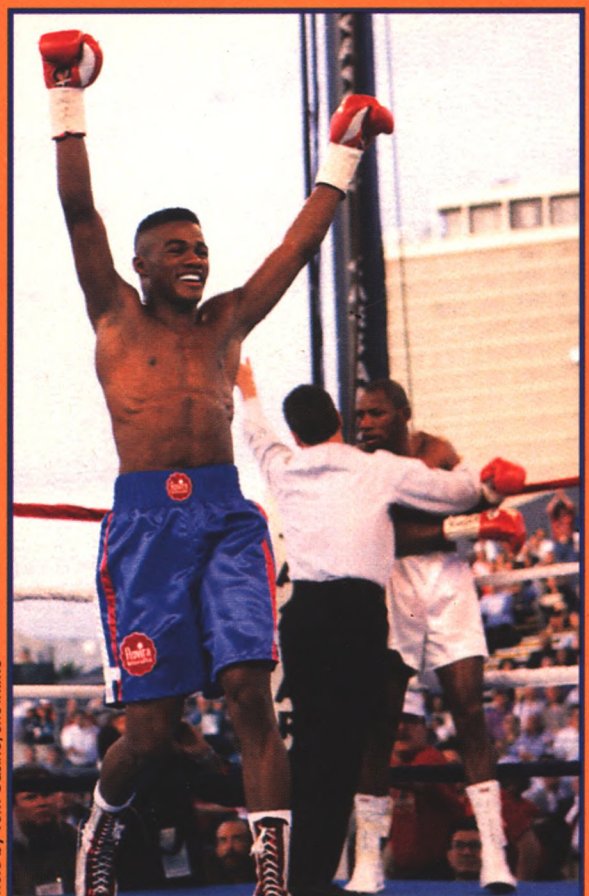


Photo by Tom Casino/Showtime

In the shortest title fight on the marathon card, welter champ Trinidad finished Turner with precision. The Puerto Rican once again displayed his one-punch kayo crunch.

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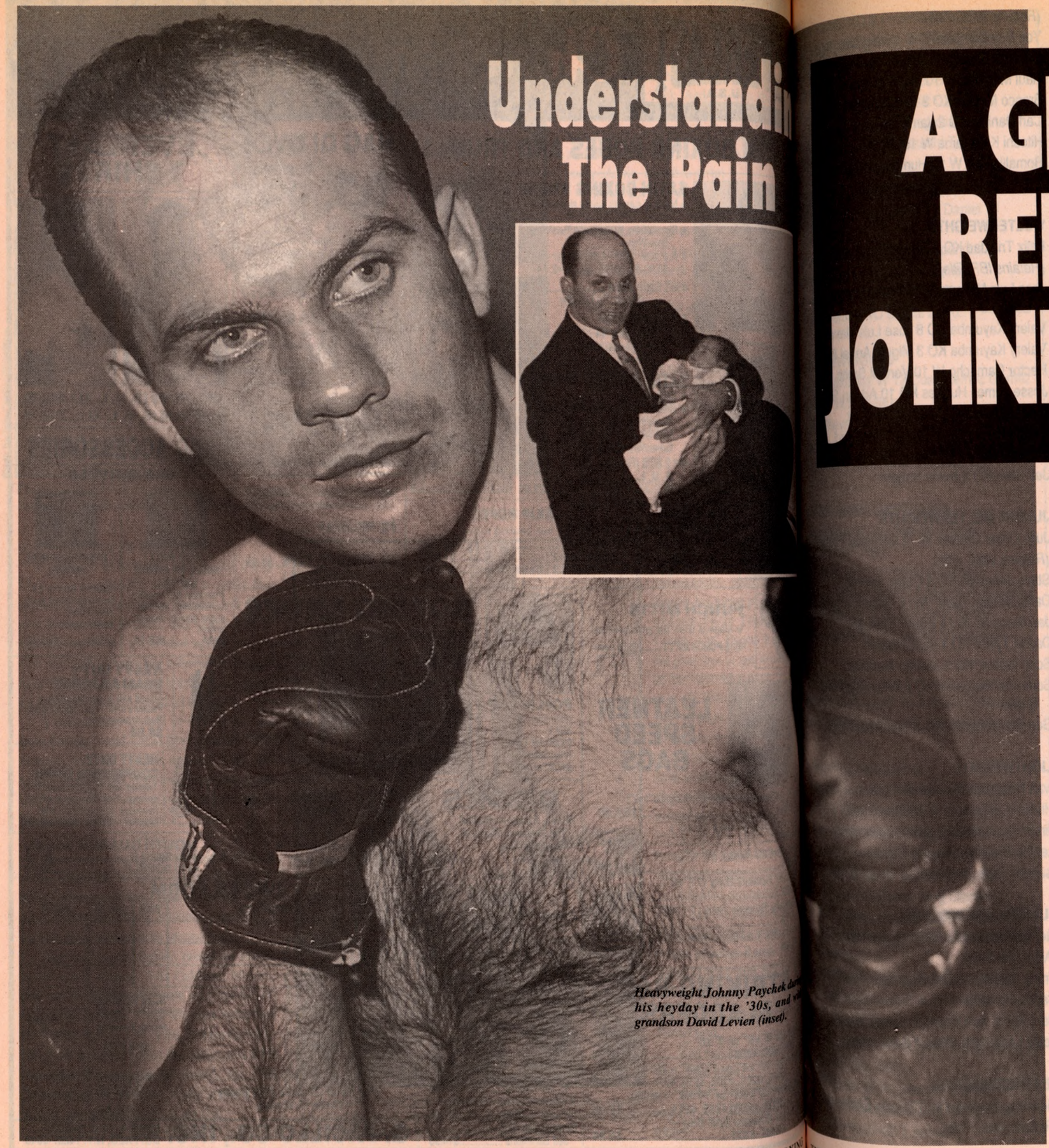
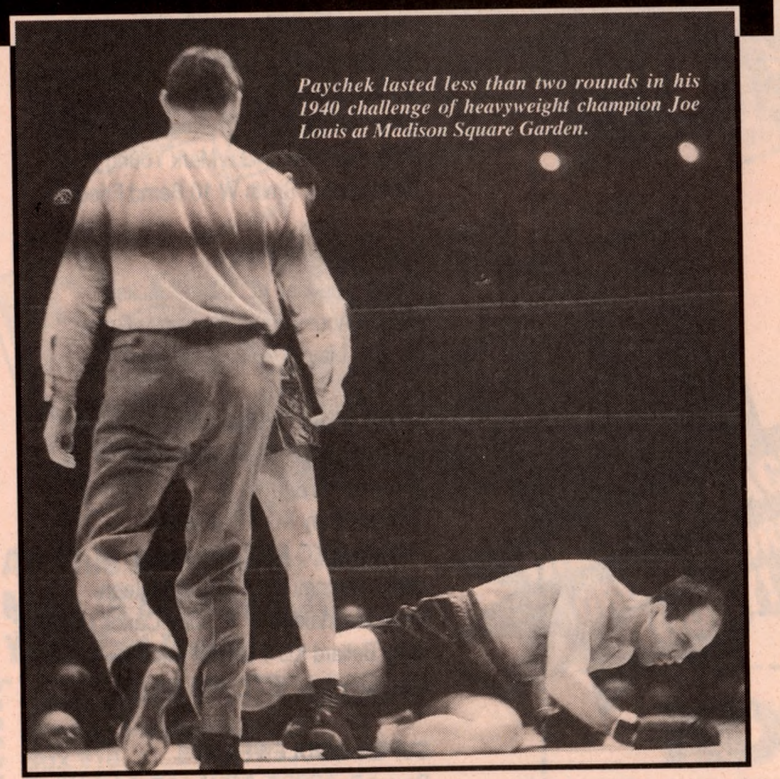


Heavyweight Johnny Paychek dur his heyday in the '30s, and w grandson David Levien (inset).

A GRANDSON REMEMBERS JOHNNY PAYCHEK



Paychek lasted less than two rounds in his 1940 challenge of heavyweight champion Joe Louis at Madison Square Garden.

By David Levien

My grandfather was Johnny Paychek (real name Johnny Pacek), the heavyweight pugilist. He was a warrior from the days before pillow-like gloves, multi-million-dollar purses, TV color commentators, cross-training advertisements, splintered governing bodies, pay-per-view, and early stoppages. His were the days of 15-rounders, fedoras, and broken ribs and noses. He had a good career in a racket that rarely provides one. In March 1940, he fought Joe Louis for the heavyweight title, and as it is unlikely you are more familiar with my grandfather than the legend of "The Brown Bomber," you should know he lost by second-round knockout.

(Continued on page 59)

THE BIBLE OF BOXING

SUMMARY

HEAVYWEIGHTS
Oliver McCall W 12 Larry Holmes
(Retains WBC Title)
Bruce Seldon KO 7 Tony Tucker
(Wins Vacant WBA Title)
Alexandr Zolkin KO 3 Rocky Pepeli
Henry Akinwande KO 2 Calvin Jones
Larry Donald Tech. Draw 4 Dave Dixon
Bobby Czyz KO 5 Tim Tomashek
Frans Botha W 8 Willie Jake
Frans Botha KO 1 Brian Sargent
Andrew Golota W 10 Marion Wilson
Shannon Briggs W 8 Marion Wilson
Kirk Johnson KO 1 Ron Gullette
Dan Dancuta KO 6 Craig Payne
James Stanton W 6 John Kiser
Brian Nielsen W 8 Tim Noble
Zeljko Mavrovic KO 5 Mark Young
Bonecrusher Smith W 10 Bernd Friedrich

CRUISERWEIGHTS
Sergei Kobozev KO 2 Dale Jackson
Patrice Aoussi KO 3 Alexander Gurov
Torsten May W 10 Saul Montana

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
Virgil Hill W 12 Crawford Ashley
(Retains WBA Title)
James Toney KO 8 Karl Willis
Tim Littles KO 5 K.C. Truesdale
Garry Delaney KO 7 Ernest Mateen
Ernie Magdaleno W 10 Juan Carlos Gimenez
Gary Ballard KO 1 Lonnie Knowles
Ole Klemetsen KO 2 John Mitchell

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Bryant Brannon Tech. Win 4 Frank Rhodes
Darrin Allen W 10 Thomas Reid
Heath Todd KO 12 Tony Menefee

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Aaron Davis KO 8 Apolinar Hernandez
Randy Smith KO 5 Pat Lawlor

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
Luis Santana W Disq. 3 Terry Norris
(Retains WBC Title)
Yori Boy Campas W 10 Young Dick Tiger
Crisanto Espana W 6 Paul Wesley
Raul Marquez W 10 Floyd Williams
Bronco McKart KO 3 Roosevelt Booth
Carl Daniels KO 2 James Mason
Hitoshi Kamiyama W 10 Jiro Aoyama
Romallis Ellis W 10 Humberto Aranda
P.J. Goossen W 12 Kenny Lopez

WELTERWEIGHTS
Felix Trinidad KO 2 Roger Turner
(Retains IBF Title)
Jose Luis Navarro KO 5 Jose Ramon Escriche
Valery Kayumba KO 8 Jose Luis Navarro
Valery Kayumba KO 3 Miguel Angel Pena
Hector Camacho W 10 Verdell Smith
Jesse James Hughes KO 10 Adrian Stone
Larry Barnes KO 2 Hector Ramirez
Harold Brazier W 8 Reggie Strickland
Robert West W 10 Andrei Pestriaev
Jeff Silva KO 2 Kevin Sedam

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
Julio Cesar Chavez W 12 Giovanni Parisi
(Retains WBC Title)
Steve Johnston KO 8 Corey Johnson
David Kamau Tech. Win 6 Gilberto Flores
Jan Bergman KO 4 Edwin Cassiani
Darryll Tyson KO 4 Jose Negron
Scott Walker KO 2 Jacinto Martinez
Soren Sondergaard KO 5 White Lightning Brown
Gert Bo Jacobsen KO 3 Shawn Spinda

LIGHTWEIGHTS
Ivan Robinson W 10 Isaac Cruz
Hiroyuki Sakamoto W 10 Felix Tuble
Jimmi Bredahl KO 2 Kelvin Seabrooks
Lester Ellis W 12 Amado Cabato
Isander Lacen W 8 Johnny De La Rosa

JUNIOR LIGHTWEIGHTS
Genaro Hernandez KO 8 Jorge Paez
(Non-Title Bout)
Tracy Patterson KO 3 Jose Luis Madrid
Carlos Hernandez KO 4 Ramon Sanchez
Raul Perez No-Contest 2 Rafael Meran
Louie Leija Tech. Draw 1 Sam Jones

FEATHERWEIGHTS
Alejandro Gonzalez W 12 Louie Espinoza
(Retains WBC Title)

win Kelley KO 9 Ricardo Rivera
guel Arrozal W Disq. 4 Orlando Soto
es Adams D 10 Edwin Santana
berto Garcia KO 4 Israel Gonzalez
ico Castillo KO 4 Gabriel Castro
Gorres KO 3 Run Tangkilisan
Matsumoto W 10 Atsushi Tamaki

NIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
co Antonio Barrera W 12 Daniel
Jimenez
us Salud KO 10 Benito Rodriguez
se Magana W 12 Max Gomez
nny Bredahl W 8 Kenny Mitchell
hie Wenton KO 5 Paul Lloyd

ANTAMWEIGHTS
suei Yakushiji W 12 Cuauhtemoc Gomez
tains WBC Title)
gio Reyes W 12 Mario Diaz
a Konadu KO 1 Robert Parra
Austin Tech. Draw 1 Javier Diaz

NIOR BANTAMWEIGHTS
old Grey W 12 Orlando Tobon
tains IBF Title)
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mson Elite-Gym KO 6 Maxim Pougachev
see Gideon W 8 Joel Luna Zarate
ani Nene W 12 Dachiri Thompson

LYWEIGHTS
chael Carbajal W 10 Armando Diaz
hokchai 3K-Battery W 10 Ledion Ceniza

NIOR FLYWEIGHTS
quita Gonzalez KO 5 Jesus Zuniga
tains WBC/IBF Titles)
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dao CP Gym KO 2 Rubie Alaman
l Weir W 12 Ric Magramo
cky Lin W 10 Texas Mug Gomez
man Sorjaturong KO 3 Alexis Janiola
chitnoi Sithbangprachan W 10 Nathan
Barcelona
nuel Herrera KO 4 Alejandro Cano

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RINGSIDE REPORTS

FIGHTER *of the* MONTH

It was a month of miracles, with former WBC featherweight champion Kevin Kelley overcoming a knockdown and severe facial damage to knock out Ricardo Rivera in what ESPN's Al Bernstein called "the greatest comeback in 15 years of *Top Rank Boxing*," and USBA welterweight champion Jesse James Hughes sponging the punches of the previously unbeaten Adrian Stone for nine rounds before suddenly stopping him in the 10th. (Had he chosen to, Bernstein, who called the fight, could have labeled Hughes-Stone the *second*-greatest comeback in 15 years of *Top Rank Boxing*.) Then there's Jackson, whose dramatic wins, we suppose, should never surprise anybody.

Fighting for the vacant WBC middleweight title, Jackson was staggered by Italian southpaw Agostino Cardamone in the first round. Sensing "The Hawk's" vulnerability, Cardamone went for the finish at the start of the second. In other words, Jackson had his opponent right where he wanted him. *Boom!* One vintage right hand and Cardamone was counted out.

It's Hawk Time again—and Aaron Pryor has nothing to do with it.

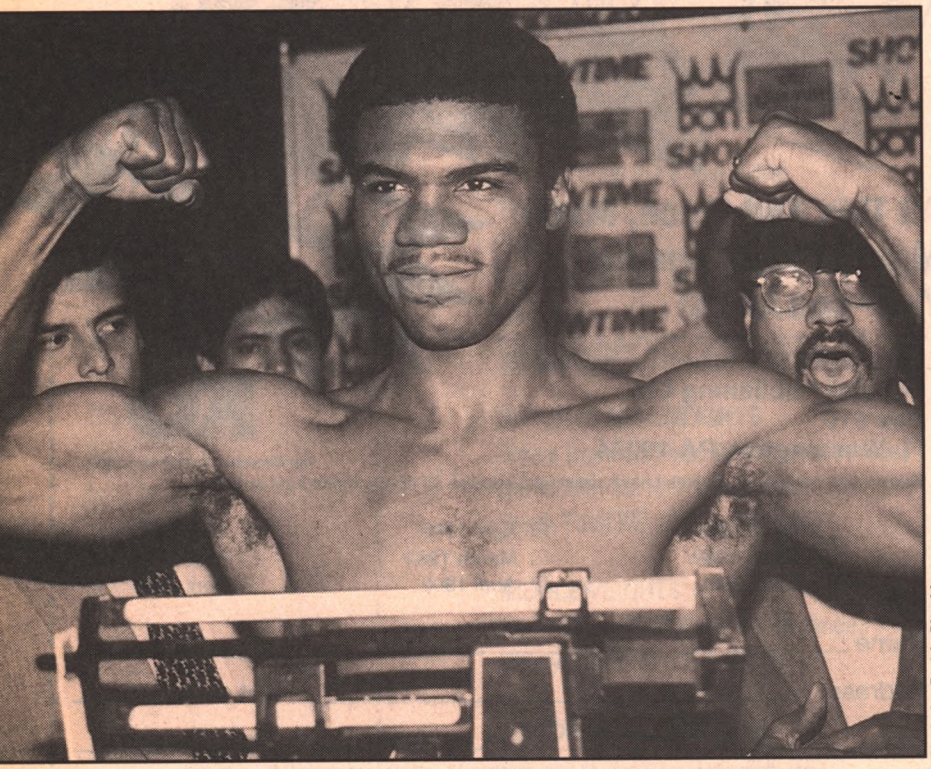


Photo by Teddy Blackburn

• • • •

Julian Jackson

Alejandro Gonzalez went underneath to get over the top

Terry Smith (USA) scored 117-110, Francisco Manzano (Puerto Rico) 116-112, and Abraham Chiavarria (Mexico) 117-111. The referee was Dr. James Jen Kin (USA).

Said Gonzalez afterward, "I knew Louie was a strong fighter, but he didn't hit me with a punch that rocked me."

Gonzalez, who took the title from Kevin Kelley in January, will next defend against Philadelphia's Tony Green.

The card was promoted by Forum Boxing and televised by TVKO.

(3-31-95)

David Wood

ejandro Gonzalez W 12 Louie Espinoza

Anaheim, California: Making his first defense of the WBC feather- ght title, "Cobrita" Gonzalez overcame a stubborn Espinoza and cap- a unanimous decision before a crowd of 12,479 at Arrowhead Pond. bout was one of four pay-per-view features headlin- the first-ever card at this venue.

At 32, former junior featherweight champion inoza, 126, Phoenix, Arizona, probably received his chance at a world title. The challenger boxed well nd his jab in the early rounds, using all his experi- to frustrate Gonzalez, 126, Guadalajara, Mexico. le Espinoza picked up his points by punching down middle, the heavier-hitting Gonzalez attempted to nect with wide hooks.

Gonzalez, 21, did enjoy some early-rounds success. e second, a left-right to the head wobbled Espinoza. challenger nailed the Mexican with a big right in fifth, but even as Espinoza gained confidence, the mpion was beginning to assume command.

t was Gonzalez' work over the final four rounds determined the outcome. In the ninth, a left-right- combination staggered Espinoza. Gonzalez, 36-2 , scored often in the 10th, and repeatedly rocked inoza, 49-9-2 (41), with blows to the head in the Espinoza absorbed such a brutal beating that he trouble finding his corner at the bell. In the 12th, zalez continued his effective punching against what now a game but weak challenger. With 30 seconds ining, a left uppercut served as a fitting punctuation

Chiquita Gonzalez KO 5 Jesus Zuniga

Anaheim, California: At "Mucho Machismo," it was the smallest man on the bill who stole the show.

Engaging in his 17th world title fight, and making his third defense of the WBC/IBF junior flyweight titles (it is his second reign), Gonzalez won every round before crushing mandatory challenger and fellow southpaw Zuniga, who was making his U.S. debut.

Photo by Brent Cook

Chiquita remains top banana

The 29-year-old Gonzalez, 108, Ciudad Neza, Mexico, seemed unconcerned at the start with the challenger's movement and soft jabs. Zuniga, 107, Zapata, Colombia, couldn't match the champion's strength, and in the first round he was staggered by a right-left combination. In the second, Gonzalez hammered his foe with a pair of big rights.

Gonzalez opened up for the first time toward the end of the third, when he drove Zuniga back with a flurry and concentrated his followup attack on the Colombian's body. In the fourth, the champion walked through his opponent and scored at close range. When he switched his attack from the body to the head, he rocked Zuniga with uppercuts.

Gonzalez, 42-2 (29), moved to top gear in the fifth. One minute in, the challenger found himself on the ropes, and Gonzalez wobbled him with a series of right-left combinations to the head. The knockout punch was a right hook, with Zuniga, 23-2-2 (14), falling face-first. He never threatened to beat the count of referee Robert Byrd (USA). The end came at the 1:26 mark.

"The Clown Prince's" blood was no laughing matter

"He was getting tired from the hooks to the body," said the winner.

Gonzalez has virtually run out of opposition at 108 pounds. He is likely to soon move up and challenge WBC flyweight champion Yuri Arbachakov.

The judges were Pat Russell, Henry Elespuru, and Vince Delgado, all from the USA.

(3-31-95)

David Wood

Genaro Hernandez KO 8 Jorge Paez

Anaheim, California: Unbeaten WBA junior lightweight champion Hernandez survived some difficult early rounds before stopping "Maromero" Paez on cuts after eight rounds of a non-title bout. The fight was originally planned as a title go, but the WBA refused to provide a sanction because Paez was unranked.

The 5'11" Hernandez, 131, Mission Viejo, California, stands five inches taller than former featherweight champion Paez, 131, Mexicali, Mexico, but in the early rounds, "The Clown Prince Of Boxing" was able to work under his opponent's guard and pound his body. Moreover, when at a distance, Paez bobbed and weaved and proved an elusive target. He also scored with a few overhand rights.

Unfortunately, the fighters did more damage with their heads than their fists. An unintentional butt in the first round opened a cut at the corner of Paez' right eye, and in the second, he suffered a gash on his left brow.

By the fifth, Paez, 50-8-4 (34), was clearly concerned with his cuts and the swelling they brought, and the 28-year-old Hernandez, 32-0-1 (16), began to take control. The seventh and eighth were the champion's biggest rounds, as he backed up Paez with punches to both the head and body.

Paez had been examined on several occasions throughout the bout, and it came as no surprise when, with the Mexican continuing to bleed, referee Larry Rozadilla (USA) called a halt during the rest period following the eighth.

At the time of the stoppage, Hernandez led on points, with Chuck Hassett scoring 78-74, Joan Ortega 79-73, and Gwen Adair 76-76. All three judges are from the USA.

"He gave me one helluva fight; I don't think he should retire," Hernandez said of the 29-year-old Paez.

Forum Boxing hopes to match Hernandez with WBC 130-pound champion Gabe Ruelas this summer.

(3-31-95)

David Wood

Roy Jones KO 1 Antoine Byrd

Pensacola, Florida: The fight was over in a scant 126 seconds, but the hometown crowd of 9,500 that packed the Pensacola Civic Center was not the least bit disappointed. That's because IBF super middleweight champion Jones, who was making his first defense of the title he won in November from James Toney, had furthered his claim as the best fighter, pound-for-pound, in the world.

Jones, 167½, Pensacola, gave mandatory challenger Byrd, 167¾, Los Angeles via Cleveland, the once-over for about a minute, then went to work. Fighting a southpaw for the first time as a pro, Jones, 28-0 (2[illegible]), exploded with a right uppercut and several additional rights, then floored the 32-year-old Byrd, 26-5-1 (13), with a left hook. The challenger beat the count of referee Billy Connors (USA), but when Jones rained punches in accurate bunches, Byrd fell again. Once more he arose, but Jones, turning southpaw, landed a couple more blows, prompting Connors' intervention at the 2:06 mark.

The judges were Paul Herman, Rocky Castellani, and Sheila Mann, all from the USA.

Jones wasn't totally happy with his performance, which was televised by HBO.

"Byrd hit me twice," he said.

Oh.

Next up for the 26-year-old Jones will be Vinny Pazienza at the Atlantic City Convention Center in June.

(3-18-95)

Anthony Carter Paige

Virgil Hill W 12 Crawford Ashley

Jean, Nevada: Hill didn't allow a fractured left hand to alter his game plan, and the WBA light heavyweight champion put pain behind him in retaining the title for the seventh time in his second reign, scoring a unanimous decision over Ashley before 2,400 fans in the Star of the Desert Arena at Buffalo Bill's casino-hotel. Promoter Don King's 11-bout marathon card was the first boxing show at the venue, which is 25 miles west of Las Vegas.

Photo by Jack Goodman/HBO

On Team Jones, everyone has a belt

Making only his second start in 18 months, Hill, 175, Bismarck, North Dakota, worked behind an accurate jab and outboxed the willing Briton in a knockdown-free bout.

"I had absolutely no choice; I had to use the hand," Hill, 31, said of his chief weapon. "I'm sure [the fracture occurred] in the fourth round because I got Ashley with four straight jabs, and every time after that I felt a sharp pain go up my arm when I landed the jab."

The 30-year-old Ashley, 174, Leeds, England, failed in his second attempt at world honors. In April 1993, he was stopped in six rounds by then-WBA super middleweight champion Michael Nunn.

Hill wins, but breaks his left hand

At 6'3" and with a two-inch reach advantage, Ashley seemed content to try to match jabs with Hill. Although the challenger won only two rounds on the cards, he didn't let Hill get away unmarked. In the eighth, which was Ashley's best round, Hill reeled into the ropes after being jolted by a heavy right in ring-center. However, Ashley failed to grab the momentum, and he allowed the champion to protect a severely bruised left cheek with lateral movement and sporadic jabs.

Taking no chances because of the swelling, Hill, 40-1 (20), loaded up in the ninth, backing up Ashley, 20-7-1 (19), with double-jabs to the head and body. Ashley, whose right eye puffed up late in the bout, tired visibly in the 10th, but managed to win the 11th by landing a right to the jaw and two lefts that backed up Hill. Hill, who generally finishes strong, asked trainer Mike Hall "Am I losing?" before the start of the 12th, then went for a final-round knockout, connecting with several left-rights and a booming right uppercut that turned Ashley sideways just before the final bell.

Duane Ford (USA) and Roberto Ramirez (Puerto Rico) both scored 118-110 (as did THE RING), and Marcos Torres (Panama) 117-113. The referee was Richard Steele (USA).

"Overall, I'm satisfied with the results, but I don't like the idea of being sidelined again," Hill said.

The champion's broken hand cost him a date against an unnamed opponent on King's April 29 show in Landover, Maryland. Moreover, the injury will further delay a proposed unification match against WBC champion Mike McCallum, who was seated ringside.

"I'll fight Mike anytime, but I can't make the match," said Hill. "That's up to Don King."

Hill earned $225,000, and Ashley $20,000.

The bout was televised by Showtime.

(4-1-95)

Jack Welsh

Ricardo Lopez KO 12 Andy Tabanas

Jean, Nevada: WBC strawweight champion Lopez, boxing's longest-reigning titlist and one of the sport's most exciting performers at any weight, retained the title for the 14th time, halting the game Tabanas 15 seconds before the final bell on the Hill-Ashley undercard at Buffalo Bill's.

The 27-year-old Lopez, 104, Mexico City, Mexico, won every round, backing up Tabanas, 105, Cebu, Philippines, from the start and boxing masterfully down the stretch. He pounded the challenger throughout, and the stoppage of referee Mitch Halpern (USA) came as much from an accumulation of blows as any last-round fireworks. Desperate to avoid a TKO loss, Tabanas clinched 10 times in the 12th round, but his tactics served only to delay the inevitable.

"I hurt both my hands in the second round," said Lopez, 40-0 (30), "but I was well-prepared, so it wasn't difficult to continue."

"I wanted to fight Lopez close inside, but I couldn't get near him," said the 25-year-old Tabanas, 30-3 (19), who finished with a swollen face and a bloody nose. "Lopez is a grand champion."

Afterward, Don King talked of moving Lopez up to the junior flyweight class, where a showdown with former world champion Michael Carbajal is waiting. Carbajal outpointed Armando Diaz on the undercard.

"Ricardo and Michael will be a super attraction on either side of the border," said the promoter.

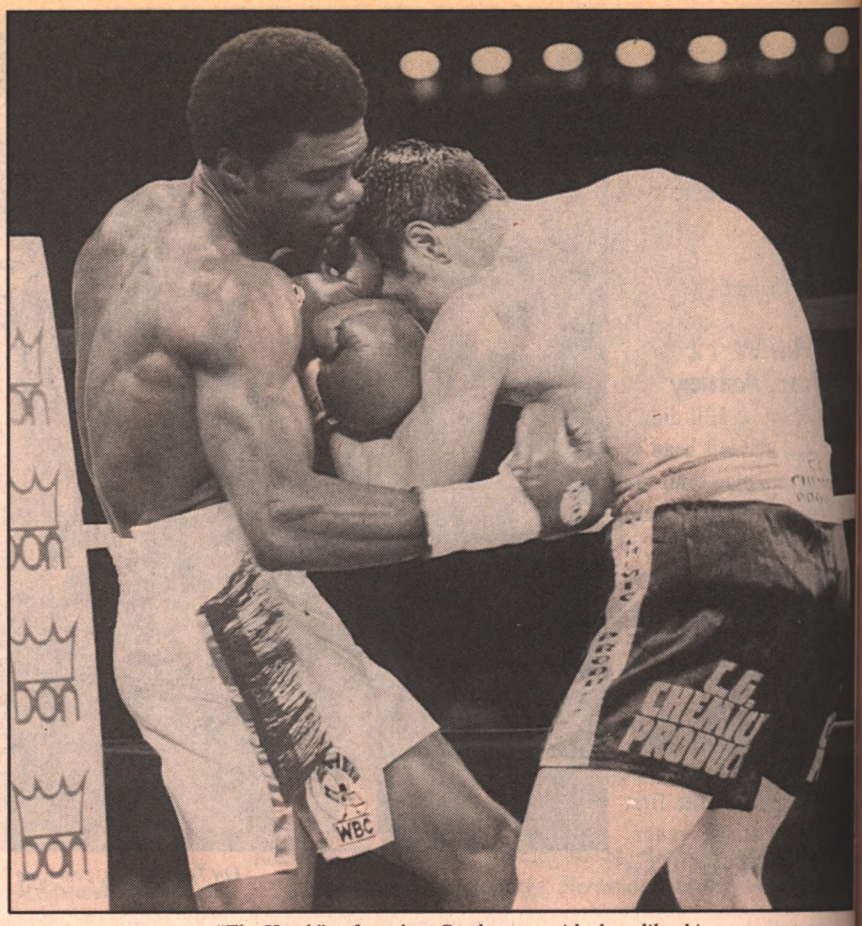
"Carbajal is the fight I want now," echoed Lopez. "I'm ready."

The judges were Herbert Minn, Dalby Shirley, and Dave Moretti, all from the USA.

Lopez earned $25,000, and Tabanas $5,000.

(4-1-95)

Jack Welsh



"The Hawk" softened up Cardamone with shots like this

Julian Jackson KO 2 Agostino Cardamone

Worcester, Massachusetts: After a pair of devastating knockout losses to Gerald McClellan, there were questions about whether the 34-year-old Jackson should continue his career. After the second defeat (in May 1994), the big-punching veteran spoke of dropping down to junior middleweight. But for better or worse, here was "The Hawk" back in the 160-pound wars.

In a battle for the WBC title vacated by McClellan, Jackson was matched against European champion Cardamone at the Worcester Memorial Auditorium. The bout was pick-'em, but in the opening seconds of the first round, Jackson's future looked even further in doubt. Cardamone, 160, Montoro, Italy, a light-hitting southpaw with only nine kayos in 23 wins, popped a pesky jab that seemed to baffle Jackson, 160, St. Thomas, Virgin Islands. However, the difference in power was immediately evident, as every punch landed by Jackson left a reddened area on Cardamone's face.

With 50 seconds left in the round, the bout took an unexpected turn when the 29-year-old Cardamone, now mixing in powerpunches with his jabs, staggered Jackson with a right hook. Jackson's problems multiplied when Cardamone's followup assault opened a jagged cut under The Hawk's left eye. With referee Marty Denkin (USA) keeping a close watch, Jackson barely lasted until the bell.

Cardamone, 23-1 (9), pressed his attack at the start of the second, but by then Jackson's fighting heart, not to mention his guile, had brought him out of danger. As Cardamone burst forward, Jackson, 51-3 (47), crossed a lazy left as if to distract the Italian, then followed with a pulverizing right uppercut. Cardamone went over on his back, his shoulders slamming flat and his feet up in the air. The brave southpaw beat the count, but when he began wobbling off to the side, Denkin wisely waved it off at the 1:59 mark.

"I didn't see the punch coming," was Cardamone's predictable reaction.

Having won his third world title with as dramatic a turnaround as the

Photo by Teddy Brockbum

sport had seen in years, Jackson served notice that his experience and homerun punching power will make him a factor in the middleweight ranks for as long as he wishes.

"I was really tentative in the first round, and I got stunned," said Jackson, his left eye swollen shut. "But I was never in danger of being stopped. I was able to see all his punches coming and able to survive. I knew if I hit him I could hurt him."

The judges were Richard Flaherty, Tony Castellano, and Tommy Kaczmarek, all from the USA.

The bout was televised by Showtime.

(3-17-95)

Jay N. Miller

Orlin Norris W 12 Adolpho Washington

Worcester, Massachusetts: If WBA champion Norris is the consensus choice as the best cruiserweight in the world, then Washington is just a hairbreadth behind. And even that point may be debatable after Norris made his fourth defense, scoring a unanimous decision by the slimmest of margins (three cards of 115-114) at the Worcester Memorial Auditorium.

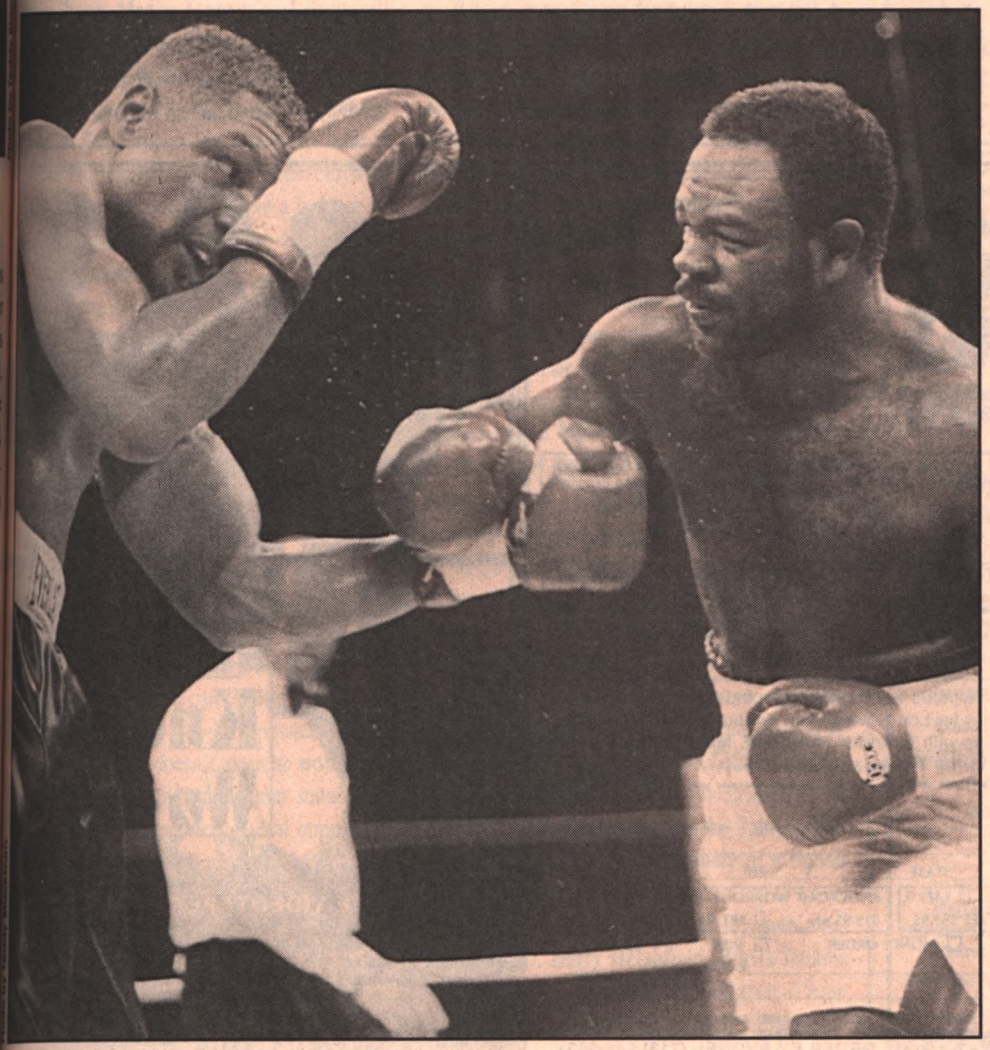
Norris-Washington was the co-feature on a St. Patrick's Day card featuring Jackson-Cardamone.

It was the third world title try for Washington, who seems jinxed. In 1993, he lost by technical decision to WBA light heavyweight champion Virgil Hill after being cut by a TV camera following the 11th round. And last year, he fought to a draw with WBC cruiserweight king Anaclet Wamba, only to find afterward that the judges hadn't penalized the champion for an unintentional headbutt, as they were supposed to have done.

Many in attendance thought this time, Washington, 190, Chatham, Louisiana, deserved to be crowned. As usual, Norris, 190, San Diego, California, put forth a solid effort, but over the first half of the bout he was outboxed from a distance. Had it been an amateur bout, Washington would have swept the first six rounds. But as it was, Norris' brief but effective inside volleys offset the challenger's effective jabbing. It often seemed Norris ignored his opponent's lefts as if they were so many fistic mosquitoes, while his own short, crunching hooks and uppercuts visibly shook Washington.

The seventh seemed the turning point, as Norris, 43-3 (24) with 1 no-decision, came up out of his crouch and began chasing his taller foe. Washington, 24-3-2 (15), was not nearly as effective when forced to back up. Strong and relentless, Norris continued his workmanlike advances through the eighth and ninth, and it seemed his consistent pressure was wearing Washington down. But the challenger has the tenacity of a champion, and he staged a gutty comeback over the last three rounds of an exciting battle.

By the 11th, Washington was forcing Norris to retreat, and he even outslugged the champion through a late sequence along the ropes. The final round was a classic, with the fighters trading toe-to-toe. Norris finished strong, but Washington threw more punches, landing most of them.



Washington and Norris slugged it out

The referee was Hubert Earle (Canada).

Julio Roldan (Venezuela), Waldemar Schmidt (Puerto Rico), and Fernando Viso (Mexico) made Norris the winner—barely. THE RING saw it 114-114, and there was support for both fighters along press row.

"I expected a tough fight, otherwise I don't think I would've made it through," said Norris.

"I thought we got screwed," said Goody Petronelli, who trains Washington. "I just talked to [trainer] George Benton, and he told me he had us winning by four or five points. Norris threw harder punches probably, but Adolpho threw more punches. He was busier the whole night long."

Washington should remain a hot commodity in the cruiserweight ranks. With a bit more consistency—and a touch of luck—he'll one day be wearing a title belt of his own.

(3-17-95)

Jay N. Miller ■

Collins-Eubank

(Continued from page 37)

Eubank was meeting his most dangerous rival since his second clash with WBC champion Benn. He made a characteristically elaborate entrance to the ring on a Harley-Davidson, but three-quarters of an hour later he was subjected to witty taunts from the 7,000 delirious Irish fans who filled The Green Glens Arena: "On yer bike ... on yer bike ... on yer bike." (This after Eubank endured his first defeat in 44 fights.) The whole occasion prompted justifiable comparisons with the many nights Barry McGuigan ignited packed crowds in Belfast's renowned King's Hall.

"I absorbed the atmosphere," said Collins. "I could feel the whole crowd was for me, and this gave me more strength."

He also completely closed his mind to Eubank's extravagant arrival by shutting his eyes and listening to music from *Rocky* on his Walkman. But he was extremely attentive by the time the opening bell rang.

Positive and aggressive, Collins, 29-3 (16), landed effectively throughout the first three rounds and turned Eubank with ease when evading the Englishman's cumbersome punches. Eubank, 41-1-2 (19), looked much better in the fourth after finding his range, but Collins rebounded with a sequence of jabs and straight rights to convincingly capture round five.

There were two defining incidents during the bout, the first of which occurred in round eight. A strong right honed in on Eubank's midriff and he fell unceremoniously onto the floorboards before receiving the mandatory count from referee Ron Lipton (USA). Eubank was clearly in trouble, encountering further rough patches in the ninth as well.

One dynamic right hand changed the complexion at the start of the 10th, when Collins fell heavily via the ropes and was issued a count of nine.

"Before I hit the canvas I was smiling," maintained Collins, "so he couldn't have hurt me that bad. I was aware of what was going on. I could even see the referee get a bit worried—*Is he going to get up or what?*—but I just stayed down to nine and got up. If that was acting, then I deserve an Oscar more than Tom Hanks."

There can be no denying that Collins was in serious danger of being stopped, but his salvation came with Eubank's inexplicable decision to back off.

"He'll regret that for the rest of his life," was the opinion of trainer Davis.

The cobwebs cleared and Collins survived the final couple of rounds without much grief.

Unlike so many of Eubank's earlier fights, the decision was unanimous. Roy Francis (England) scored 116-114, and Puerto Rican Cesar Ramos and Ismael Fernandez 115-113 and 114-113, respectively. THE RING scored it Collins by 114-112. It was also Collins' finest ever performance, and one that went down particularly well in Ireland the night after St. Patrick's Day, when, traditionally, the only thing on an Englishman's mind is a massive headache.

Collins' mind was naturally preoccupied with future plans.

"Roy Jones is overrated simply because he's American," he claims. "The Americans say he's the best, pound-for-pound, but I believe that I am. The Europeans know it and the Americans know it, but they just won't admit to it. So I'm saying, let's get it on and we'll see."

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And remember, Mr. Jones, Collins has Tony Quinn in his corner to further develop his mind. Who are you going to get to combat that? Rasputin? ■

Brian Doogan is THE RING'S *correspondent in Europe.*

Mike Tyson

(Continued from page 25)

ay, the desire that enabled him to dethrone Holyfield in 1992. "Big Daddy" is scheduled to face unbeaten powerpuncher Jorge Luis Gonzalez in June. If the menacing Cuban scores an upset, Tyson-Gonzalez would instantly jump to the top of the list of must-see heavyweight fights. But which outlaw would get to wear the black hat?

Sometimes one fight is all it takes, so maybe Gonzalez will be the fighter who will ultimately elevate Tyson. Maybe Moorer or Lewis will rebound. Maybe one of the young turks like Shannon Briggs or Andrew Golota or Kirk Johnson will move to the head of the class. Maybe, as Futch suggested, someone who is now playing anonymously on undercards in Peoira will explode onto the scene a la Michael Bentt. Or maybe Tyson will have to deal with the same old same old.

Oh, yeah, there's one other possibility: Tyson won't have to worry about elevating his standing because he'll be too busy elevating himself off the canvas. No one seems willing to as much as entertain the thought, but when both of Tyson's careers are closed, maybe The Second Coming will turn out to have been overhyped and anticlimactic. Remember, Ali arranged his comeback into the most dramatic of decade-long symphonies, but Benny Leonard's return was one long sour note.

Back to a brighter scenario: Let's say the prime of Tyson's second career lasts three years, and during that time a four-star opponent fails to emerge. That in itself doesn't mean he won't have the opportunity to regain his former status. The first time around, Tyson lacked ideal opposition. Nonetheless, he secured a place in heavyweight history by unifying the title and cleaning out the entire division, and doing so in convincing and charismatic fashion. If he does that again, and accomplishes nothing more, it will still be more than enough to impress the historians.

Mike Tyson included. ■

Boxing Auction

(Continued from page 27)

Robinson-Luc Van Dam (very attractive): $1,093
Fullmer-Basilio: $1,208
Armstrong-Zivic I: $1,150
Armstrong-Jack: $690
Zale-Graziano I: $1,553
Saddler-Elorde: $345
Montgomery-Jack: $311
Gans-Erne (small): $4,140
Marciano-Moore (fair condition): $748
Clay-Cooper: $863
Ali-London: $604
Clay-Liston: $3,335
Johnson-Burns (fight film): $3,680
10 Larry Holmes posters: $460
10 Holyfield posters: $374
18 Tyson posters: $1,265

AD PIECES

These items varied from small beer ads to large lithographs.

Jack Johnson, White Steam Touring Car: $1,265
Johnson-Jeffries, Golden State Beer: $1,380
Max Baer, razor blade counter standup, with five packs of blades: $1,093
1880s Liston Beef Extract ad showing all champions of the day: $3,450

ART

Collectors know what they like—whether they know art or not. For sale were 15 original* THE RING *magazine cover paintings by C.R. Schaare and* THE RING *Publisher Stanley Weston from the '30s and '40s. They ranged from $345 to $1,955. The costliest of these paintings featured Joe Louis vs. Tony Galento.

A pair of portraits of John L. Sullivan, believed to have been painted from life, were pricier. One, measuring nearly eight feet tall, went for $6,900. The other fetched $4,600.

There were many fine bronzes, too. The most expensive was the life-sized bronze of Georges Carpentier's head ($3,220). A similar bronze of Frank Erne sold for $1,840. "The Conquered" by Joe Brown (not the fighter) went for $1,725, and a numbered Shiely of a fighter on his stool sold for $1,208.

Also featured was cartoon art by such masters as TAD, Harry Hershfield, Burris Jenkins Jr., Willard Mullin, and Bob Edgren. These were grouped in lots. A lot of four Edgren car-

(Continued on page 56)

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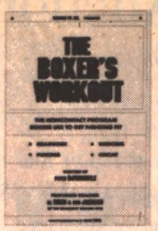

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Boxing Auction

(Continued from page 55)

toons went for $1,093. A group of four that included a Tad and a Herschfeld sold for $863. More recent cartoon art went for much less.

A beautiful piece of leather on which artist Bob Hopkins drew Jeffries in a fight pose sold for $3,335.

Of the contemporary pieces, a limited edition Ali-Foreman Neiman print went for $1,265, and a large Karsh photo of Ali brought $2,990.

ANTIQUE PHOTOS

It's unlikely there will ever again be such an impressive array of vintage boxing photos. All the photos listed below were made before 1905.

John L. Sullivan and manager Patsy Sheedy (large Elmer Chickering photo): $3,335

Early Sullivan (large J. Woods photos): $1,093 and $1,668

All three of the above photos portrayed Sullivan in a suit, and not a fight pose. The one traditional Sullivan fight pose (large) went for a mere $1,035, largely because it featured the most common Sullivan pose.

James J. Corbett (large Chickering): $2,070

Corbett (six smaller photos): $633

Three Sullivan cabinet photos (cabinets are about four-by-six) and three Corbett cabinets with tickets to Corbett-Sullivan, Dixon-Skelly, and McAuliffe-Myers: $4,140.

Bob Fitzsimmons (medium size): $489

Five cabinet-sized photos of Jeffries with Fitzsimmons: $1,438

Jack "The Nonpareil" Dempsey (large fight pose): $1,495; in a suit (large): $1,438; two cabinets with a testimonial card to his widow's benefits: $805

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John C. Heenan studio portrait (large): $1,208

AUTOGRAPHS

All of these were legitimate signatures, at least as far as we could discern. The price depended largely on the boldness of the signature, the age of the piece, and the overall look. Here is a representative group.

Harry Greb-signed photo, framed with one unsigned photo: $3,680

Large antique photo of Jeffries, dated 1899: $2,300

Fitzsimmons cut signature with two cabinet photos: $2,070

Very large vintage Dempsey photo inscribed to trainer Gus Wilson: $546

Large Ray Robinson-signed photo in fight pose: $460

Three Barney Ross-signed photos: $219

Jack Johnson-signed photo and unsigned contract: $2,990

John L. Sullivan-signed photo: $3,450

EQUIPMENT

Many of these items bombed out for a lack of provenance. During the investigation of the collection, it was found that Hott had simply taken the word of various folks from whom he had obtained many of the items. As a result, authenticity could not be verified. Several pieces that were sold had been discredited before the auction. Included below are some verified (v) and unverified lots.

Marciano robe from Cockell fight (v): $11,500

Tony Zale robe: $160

Ray Leonard robe (v): $2,200

Corbett robes: $260

Greb robe: $50

Dempsey robe: $75

Braddock trunks (v): $1,250

Liston training gloves (v): $850

Marciano training gloves (v): $6,612

Dempsey gloves: $70

MISCELLANEOUS

How about a souvenir pennant from the Johnson-Jeffries fight? Just $1,553. Or a souvenir scarf from that fight? Only $719. Or a very large colorized photo of Dempsey? A mere $748.

Five framed Dempsey fight programs sold for $1,610 (from fights vs. Firpo, Tunney I and II, Carpentier, and Gibbons). Four programs from the '20s (Leonard-Tendler, Firpo-Wills, Stribling-Loughran, and Tunney-Heeney) went for $719.

The figures listed above should be taken what they are—prices realized in a much hooded auction with no minimum bids, one dealer was trying to corner the mar Nonetheless, what the auction showed was today's major collectors are willing to pay quality material, and that the hobby is alive well.

Something else was learned, Speculation in boxing memorabilia rarely off. Remember the price for the entire col tion? Superior, even with the coin dealer Boston driving the prices quite high, lost a deal of money in the venture, largely due some of the items being suspect. Give Supe credit, though, for providing us with an un gettable event.

Don Scott, who pens a bi-monthly colu for THE RING, *is the editor of Box Collectors' News.*

Barrera

(Continued from page 31)

the night away.

Barrera had worked his way into title tention with an exceptional '94 campaign went 5-0, scoring wins over the durable world-rated Carlos Salazar (W 10) and for WBA bantamweight champion Eddie Cook 8). Such successes left boxing aficionados both sides of the border enamored of the h some youngster who seemed to have it all.

"He reminds me a lot of Julio Cesar Ch at the same stage of their careers," s Fernando Paramo, who covers boxing for Spanish-language Los Angeles newspaper *Opinion*. "He's got good skills, is gutsy never been knocked down, and isn't bad de sively. There isn't any one quality that st out. He does everything well. He's a com package."

Flattered and even a little embarrassed the comparisons to Chavez, Barrera politely misses them. "It's nice that people say that I'm still not satisfied with where I'm at. The room for me to improve in all facets of box

Carlos Rosales, who trains WBC lightw champion Miguel Angel Gonzalez, agrees Barrera and bristles at the comparisons Chavez. The Barrera hype has gotten so ou hand that Rosales and others mistakenly be

is Barrera who puts himself in the same class "J.C. Superstar."

"Marco Antonio is a good young fighter," id Rosales, who was ringside for the Jimenez ght. "But he has to do a lot more before he mes close to Chavez. It's okay for promoters d managers to say those things to sell tickets. t he should not."

Nevertheless, Rosales was impressed with e ease in which Barrera defeated Jimenez. hough only whispered, the comparisons that ve mildly amused Rosales and others will come louder if Barrera continues to win in pressive fashion.

After receiving a hero's welcome upon his turn to Mexico City, the lawyer-in-training alyzed the evidence before him—*So this is w world champions get treated*—and decided stick with three judges and a referee instead one judge and a jury.

Barrera became a top-10 fighter in 1993. 's been world-rated at junior bantamweight d bantamweight, and was once listed first at 5 pounds by the WBC. But he failed to make ight in an elimination bout vs. Salazar, and en though he defeated his opponent, the title t went to the Argentine southpaw. Barrera's patience with boxing politics, combined with opportunity to study law, prompted the fighter to declare several months ago, "If I don't get world title fight by mid-1995, I'll quit boxing d focus all my energies on my studies."

Thousands of Mexican and Southern lifornian boxing fans are glad Jimenez gave m that title shot. "Of all the Mexican fighters o have been hyped in the past several years, arrera is the only one who is truly a complete ghter," said John Beyrooty, publicist for orum Boxing, which promoted Barrera-imenez. "Bolillo Gonzalez and Yori Boy ampas never lived up to their potential. I ways thought Barrera was better than those o and that he'd go further."

Gonzalez and Campas fit the mold of so ny hyped Mexican fighters. They turned pro hile still teenagers and came north with pressive press clippings and undefeated cords, only to lose when they faced world-ass opposition. Although Barrera turned pro o months shy of his 16th birthday, he doesn't the stereotype. His pedigree is solid. He's en boxing since he was seven, claims an ama-ur record of 63-2, and was a two-time national lden Gloves champion at flyweight.

And unlike many fighters, Barrera's drive is fueled by a desire to escape the barrio or an underprivileged background. His father, Jorge, owns a company that designs sets for the Mexican television and film industry. This afforded his family an upper-middle class lifestyle.

Barrera remains an excellent student. He has completed one semester at law school and continues to study English, but still uses an interpreter for interviews. He is also interested in politics.

Though he has yet to choose a specific field of law, Barrera says he'd like to be a public defender, like Al Pacino's character in *And Justice For All*. "I'd like to see to it," he says, "that all the people get the rights they deserve."

His current boxing concern is achieving several new goals, including dropping to 118 pounds and dominating the bantamweight division like Ruben Olivares, Carlos Zarate, and Lupe Pintor once did. "There have been some great Mexican bantamweights," he said. "I'd like to be a part of that legacy." His crowning achievement, however, would be to win the same WBC featherweight title as his idol, Salvador Sanchez. Right now, that's in the back of his mind. On his current agenda is winning his first defense, then taking on undefeated Englishman Naseem Hamed.

"Hamed has a very big mouth and talks too much," Barrera said.

Added Tony Rivera, Barrera's assistant trainer, "This would be a big fight, and a good fight for Marco. But he'd knock Hamed out in six rounds."

It is fortunate for Barrera that he has bloomed at a time when Mexican fighters have become all the rage. The three Gonzalezes, Miguel Angel, Chiquita, and Alejandro, and the Ruelas brothers, as well as Mexican-Americans Genaro Hernandez and Oscar De La Hoya, are among the best young fighters in the sport. And the invasion has not been lost on those whose job it is to analyze demographics.

"Mexican and Mexican-American fight fans are a solid base in the pay-per-view market," said Lou DiBella, who oversees boxing for HBO and its pay-per-view arm, TVKO. "Barrera is a real talent. If he and the others continue to win, you could see them on HBO within a year. And Marco is unique in that he's one of the few fighters that has post-career opportunities. And that was *before* he was a champion. It's a great thing for a fighter."

Barrera's quest is unique in boxing. He's not so much a hungry fighter who has risen from a

(Continued on page 59)

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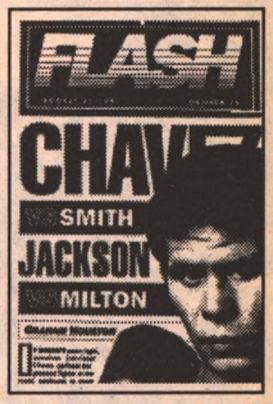

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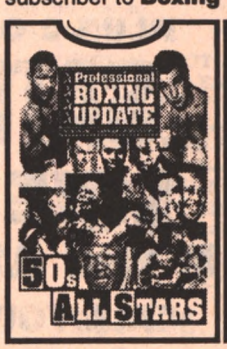

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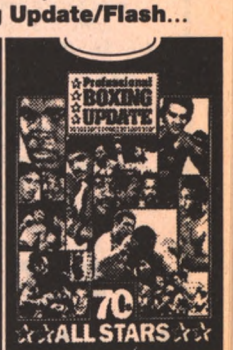

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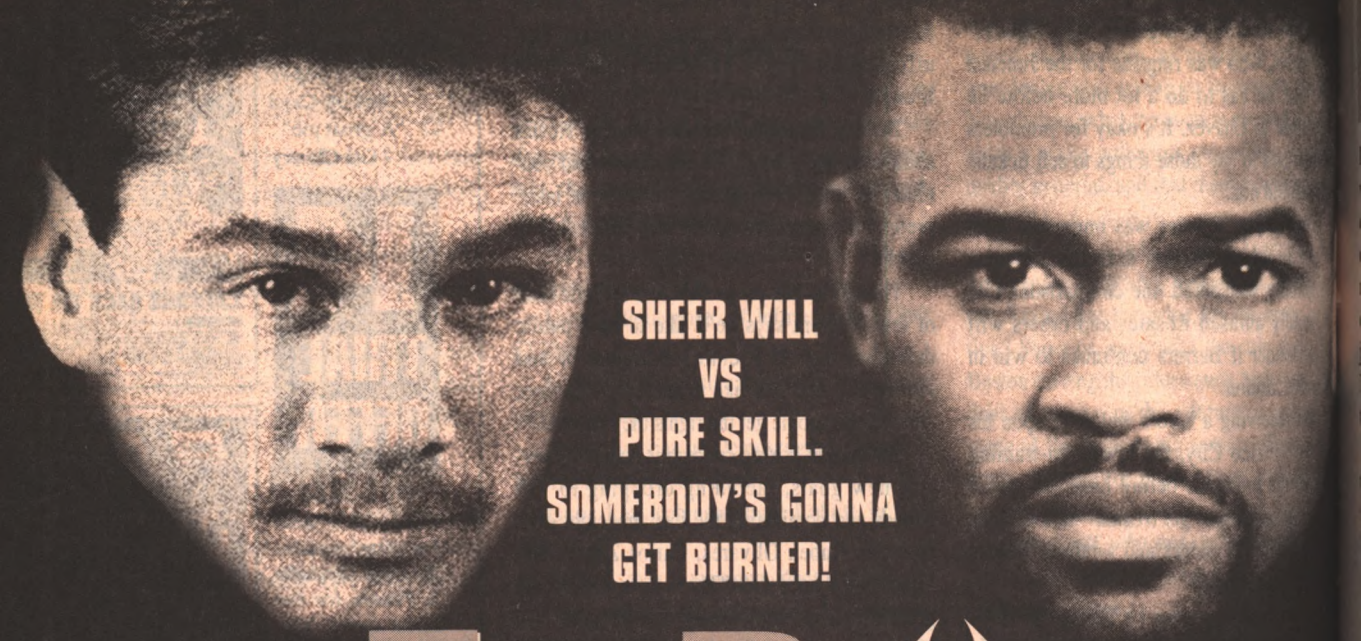

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FIGHTERS SUBJECT TO CHANGE.

Barrera

(Continued from page 57)

humble origin as much as he is a talented athlete who is a focused and determined competitor. He doesn't need to box in order to get the funds to complete law school. Papa Barrera has the means that would allow his son to fulfill his dream to one day argue and win a case before a judge and jury. But that won't be necessary, said Barrera, because "I've decided to continue to throw punches."

After all, like all good lawyers, he has a case to prove. To paraphrase Pacino's character at the end of *And Justice For All*, Marco Antonio Barrera has just finished making his opening statement. ■

Ed Maloney is a columnist for World Boxing, a sister publication of **THE RING.**

Johnny Paychek

(Continued from page 45)

I have a black-and-white press photo of the combatants that looks very staged. The two men are nattily dressed and sitting at a small table, a game of checkers between them. Louis is wearing a chalk pinstripe double-breasted suit. My grandfather is in a gray double-breasted himself, complete with pocket square. The way the suit cuts across his waist reveals the 10 or 15 pounds he gave away to the champ.

***

My grandfather, who died in 1988, was about 60 when I became old enough to be aware of him. For me, he was difficult to know. Not only was he gruff and rough, which can be off-putting to a young boy, but he had a slightly slurred way of speaking. This was part of a condition that worsened over the final 15 years of his life, and was what I now believe to be some form of brain damage. I can remember once scampering out to his garden to greet him upon my arrival at his home in the Chicago suburbs. I was a scrappy 10-year-old boy, he a bent-backed 65-year-old man who shuffled when he walked due to some nerve damage in his back. As I ran toward him, hands up (as I'd been taught), he jabbed playfully at me, which was his ritual, before hugging me. Despite the light and friendly—almost patting—nature of his delivery, I was stunned and addled, the result of a proper jab.

As we grew older, his hands became more and more remarkable to me. They were rough on the palms and backs, large, high-boned along the knuckles, and unaccountably strong and hard. At 73, an age that often found him crying without cause in his La-Z-Boy, he still had a vice-like grip and a wrenching handshake that made full-grown young men uncomfortable.

During my early-teens, I began to question him in earnest about boxing. He was not always forthcoming. There were some clippings of him as a young fighter, traveling around the Midwest by train with his manager and trainer, gaining experience and trying to build a name and record. He knocked out the tough customers from small towns in Illinois, Iowa, and Montana, who were trying for a way off the farm during the Depression. I imagine he sent a few back home.

He fought in Yankee Stadium once, in an international competition against Ireland in the '30s and knocked his man out in the finals. He gave me an old, tarnished gold medal. Still, he wasn't very clear about it all, and I couldn't really get a feel for what it had been like. It seemed he didn't remember it very well.

He was a more willing talker about his training regimen: five miles of roadwork, 10 rounds of shadowboxing, bag work, skipping rope, the medicine ball for the stomach, two or three rounds of sparring, and more in the weeks before a fight. This was every day. Injuries were treated with ice and liniment. Meals included as much steak as could be afforded. He always stressed, though there seemed no real reason to because of my comfortable upbringing, that fighting was no game for me to go into.

"Why not?" I asked in the kitchen one morning at breakfast when I was about 13. My grandmother, her back to me as she fried bacon, answered for him. "It's dangerous," she said. "You get hurt." I looked at my grandfather, who was slowly slicing the brown, bruised portion off a ripe banana, and had no way to know the extent of the word "hurt." Black eyes and bloody noses and cuts hurt, but they healed. I knew nothing of the lifelong joint stiffness, difficulty breathing due to nose and rib injuries, impaired eyesight, ringing in the ears, and diminished faculties—the kind that cannot be recovered from.

Not surprisingly, in time I explored boxing

(Continued on page 61)

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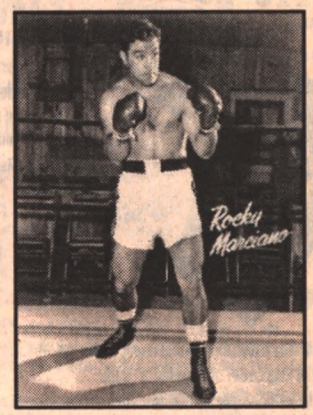

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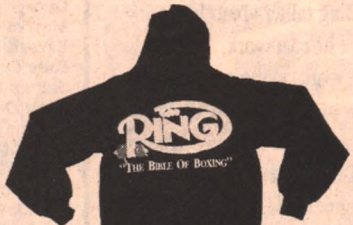

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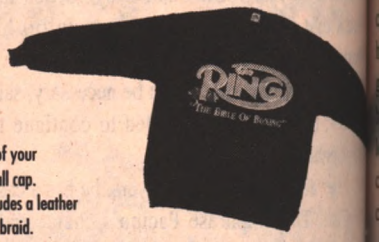

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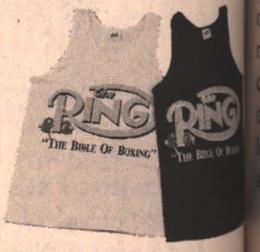

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Johnny Paychek

(Continued from page 59)

myself. I never pursued it as a career, nor even had a stint in the ring as an amateur. Neither did I experience it in the way so many men and women do these days—through the so-called executive or aerobic boxing courses that have recently become popular. In these programs people learn abstract skills: stance, combination-punching, glove and bag drills. They learn boxing for what it definitely is: great exercise. But also for what it definitely is *not*: a non-contact sport.

My practical experience took place at a martial arts school, where I learned what it's like to deliver punches and kicks to the head and body. I also discovered the cracking inside one's head when punched in the face. One does not forget the frantic search for air, and the cemented-to-the-floor sensation, when in receipt of trenchant body blows. I am no expert, and I will never be, in the art of boxing. Moreover, I have not, and probably never will, climb into the ring for an organized professional fight. But through sparring in the small ring at my gym, in my own tiny corner of the world of combat, I've felt the fear of facing someone who wants to strike you. I've learned how, with training, this fear can be managed and used to heighten one's own skills.

***

One day—maybe I had just turned 20—I saw the most fleeting of clips of Joe Louis and my grandfather in the ring. It was really a highlight film of Louis, but there was my grandfather squared off with The Brown Bomber in the stark black-and-white glare of a newsreel. My grandfather had already been down twice in the first round, and it was a miracle he had even made it to the second. In the footage, Louis hits him with a right, and my grandfather goes stiff before he falls. There are some more punches, but it is already over. Next up is some other unlucky Louis foe.

It was difficult for me to watch, with the veil of anonymity having been lifted from the competitors. Because my grandfather had lost, indeed had been knocked out, it was always hard to ask about the fight. However, the afternoon finally arrived when he was feeling a certain way, the house was quiet enough, or I had asked at the right time. He briefly entertained my questions: "What happened? What was it like?" His answers, hardly original in boxing circles, were not cliches to me.

"The arena [Madison Square Garden] was full," he said, "and I was nervous. I just couldn't get my jab off. And he was so strong—his jabs hurt me. He had so much power."

He was trying to tell me of his fear, something that was easily understood, but also something that as a fighter, he wasn't supposed to be vulnerable to. Forty years after the fight, it was a feeling he still had trouble understanding, or at least expressing. I imagine he went into the ring dry that night.

As far as I'm concerned, if one has to fight, elects to follow that road, becomes a contender, and fights for the championship of the world, and if one has to lose by knockout, then it might as well be to Joe Louis. My grandfather's journey took him closer to greatness than most men ever come.

In the aforementioned photo of Louis and my grandfather, they are not grimacing. They do not know each other and never will any better than the moment of the knockout, when fighters achieve an odd intimacy. They are paid gladiators, dull-eyed, waiting. Louis' gaze can be described as nearly sleepy. My grandfather wears a stern, fairly salty look, as if about to jump Louis' king with one of his own. I wonder if, in that secret place in his heart, he is already afraid of his counterpart.

My grandfather lived out his life as an athletic trainer and custodian at a small-town high school. He raised a family. He walked to church each Sunday. I think about how he knew life inside the ropes so well, and how little that knowledge translated to the outside world, how it left him more humble and discouraged than he ought to have been. He was not an unhappy man. His joust with glory simply cost him dearly on the back end.

He never lost his hand strength or his fighter's instincts, though. There is a family story, told quietly from time to time, of some young toughs cutting him off for a parking space at a mall. The driver made the mistake of calling out an insult regarding my grandparents' age and driving speed. My grandfather dropped off my grandmother, parked in the distance, and approached the car where "the punks" sat idling. He hurled a right hand through the open driver's side window. "What happened?" we'd ask my grandfather. In that gravely voice of his, he spoke of what he knew: "I knocked him out." ■

David Levien is a freelance writer and screenwriter based in New York City.

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CAMERA CLICKS

So who's gonna throw the first punch? Marvelous Marvin Hagler, Thomas Hearns, and Sugar Ray Leonard get together for an informal reunion at the McCall-Holmes card in Las Vegas.

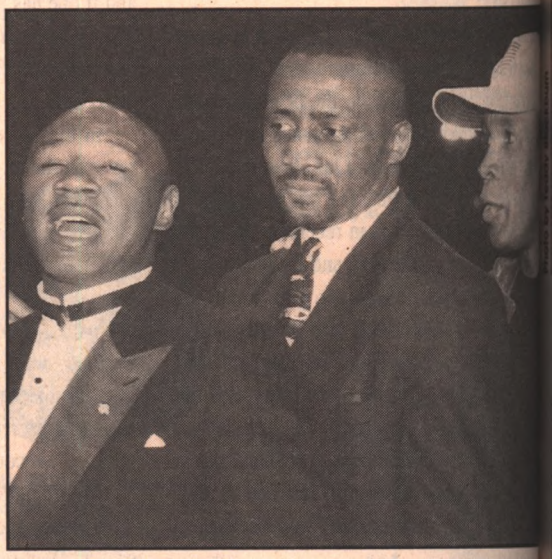
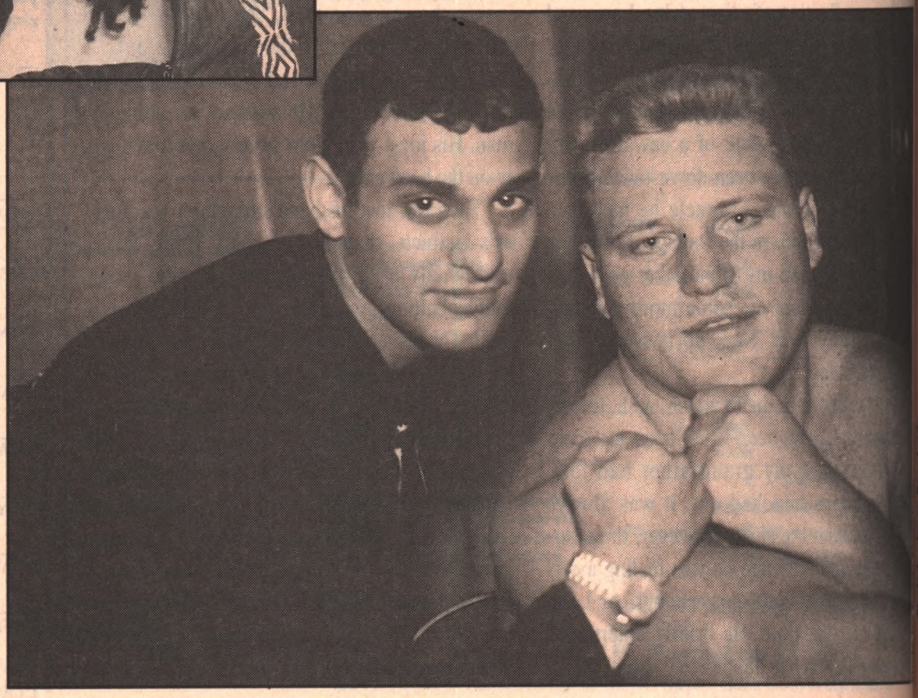


Photo by Teddy Blackburn

Photo by Teddy Blackburn

Milli Vanilli, umm, Crawford Ashley, tries to avoid the bright lights after his decision loss to Virgil Hill in April.



Only in boxing does a prince cross paths with a white buffalo. In Worcester, Massachusetts, unbeaten British junior featherweight sensation "Prince" Naseem Hamed poses with unbeaten South African heavyweight Frans "The White Buffalo" Botha.

...ly in America: When Don King failed to attend his own press confer-...e in New York City, publicist Seth Plansky reached the promoter on ...phone and asked the members of the press to use their imaginations.

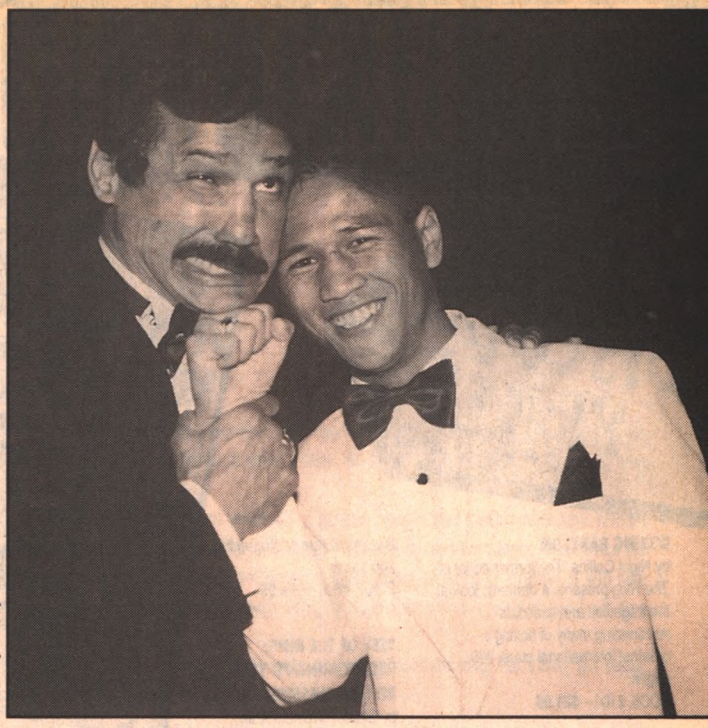
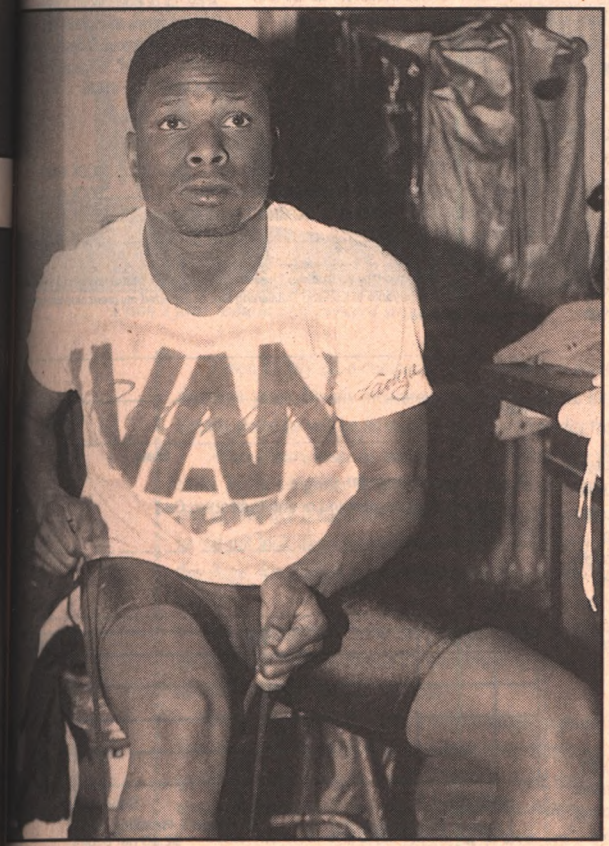


Photo by Teddy Blackburn

Who says flyweights can't hit? Former triple-crown champion Alexis Arguello with 112-pound champion San Sor Ploenchit at the annual WBA convention.

NOSTALGIA CORNER

Joe Bugner prepares for a comeback in London in September 1976. No matter where they went, the heavyweights of the '70s couldn't escape the shadow of "The Greatest."



...defeated lightweight contender Ivan Robinson prepares for battle at ...legendary Blue Horizon in Philadelphia. The former amateur star has ...ently engaged in some thrill-a-minute brawls.

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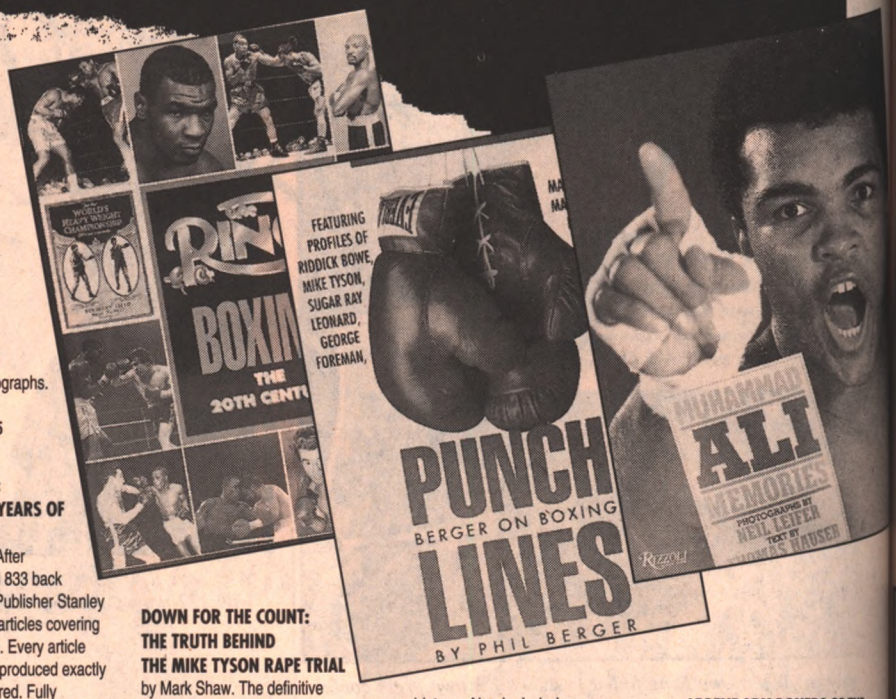

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FISKE ON FIGHTS

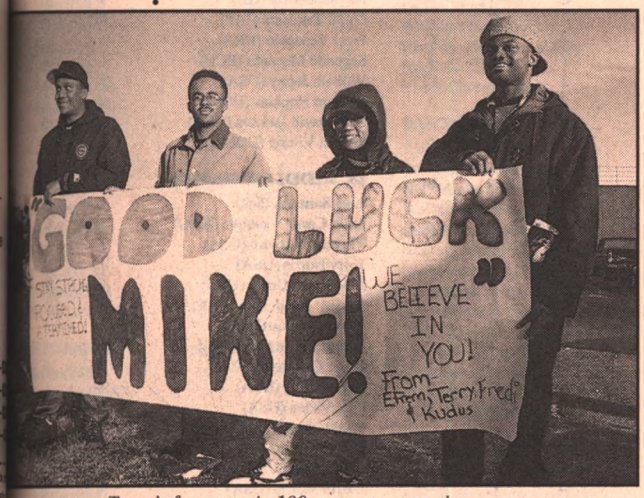
By Jack Fiske

Whoa! Hold your horses. Check your emotions at the turnstiles. Stop salivating. Temper your applause at least until there is solid evidence of regained greatness. At this stage, Mike Tyson is *not* a lock to recapture his former status. At the box office, yes; in the ring, who knows.

Tyson may or may not be the Messiah boxing needs to resurrect itself in these days of mediocrity. All the hoopla and fanfare about his release from prison indicates the fans are looking for a rebirth of the sport. But, truth to tell, the decline of boxing was very much in evidence even when the former champion was knocking almost everybody out with little apparent effort. While heavyweights have always been boxing's lifeline, it will take more than Tyson fighting every other month to bring back the crowds. That *other* Michael recently brought a familiar but still fresh magic back to a different arena after a comparatively brief holiday, but that's another story.

Tyson, of course, is not the first highly regarded boxer to attempt to come back after a number of years away from the ring. He's only the latest. Many have tried and failed to reach the same heights attained before retirement, exile, or military service.

Just a few of the greats who attempted to bridge the gap: James Jeffries, Benny Leonard, Eder Jofre, Muhammad Ali, and George Foreman. Jofre, Ali, and Foreman did the seemingly impossible by regaining championships after considerable time away from boxing. As great as Jeffries and Leonard were before their initial retirements, neither was able to overcome a long layoff and regain the throne that had been voluntarily vacated years earlier.



Tyson's fans remain 100 percent supportive

Facts: The unbeaten Jeffries retired at age 30, returned 5½ years later, and was knocked out by Jack Johnson in his first and only comeback appearance. Leonard retired as undefeated lightweight titleholder at age 29, returned after six years away, had some 20 fights against marginal opposition (winning 19 times and drawing once), and was knocked out by Jimmy McLarnin in 1932 at age 36.

More facts: Jofre hung 'em up at age 31 after having reigned as world bantamweight ruler, returned in 1969 at age 33, and won 15 in a row, including a bout for the world featherweight crown at age 35. Ali was inactive for three years, from age 26 to 28, beat Jerry Quarry and Oscar Bonavena upon returning, lost to world champion Joe Frazier, then put together a string of triumphs that resulted in his regaining the title. Foreman's comeback eclipsed all others. After a 10-year hiatus, he returned to regain the heavyweight title in his second try, at age 46. He's compiled a record of 29-2 in his second life.

So whose careers will Tyson's second coming most resemble: Jofre, Ali, and Foreman, or Jeffries and Leonard?

Tyson is only 28, a comparative youngster in a division that abounds with 30-plus competitors. He's been away from boxing for slightly more than four years. By any measurement, he fits into the top 10, even before again slipping his mitts into a pair of gloves. The overanxious WBC has already stated he will be its number-one challenger for the title as soon as he steps into a ring, *any* ring, and against any opponent.

Whoa, there, Jose. At best it will take Tyson several months to regain his old fighting form. While Ali frequently boxed in gyms during his exile, Tyson's regimen in prison was confined to running and physical exercise, but no sparring or gym work. Tyson needs to be evaluated in the ring against live bodies. His promoter, Don King, and the MGM Grand in Las Vegas, where Tyson has contracted to appear, certainly are aware that he did not look like a world-beater in three of his performances before his incarceration (against Buster Douglas and twice vs. Razor Ruddock). At this stage, who knows if he still has it, at least against formidable foes. (A factor that will work to his advantage is the weak list of opponents out there.)

It's no secret that Tyson has been, at least in his first career, a head case. (And that's putting it mildly.) What have three years in prison done for his mind, and will his reported commitment to Islam benefit or hinder what's left of the old Tyson, who once said he strived to push the nose bone of Jesse Ferguson through his brain?

From all post-prison reports, the emphasis appears to be on how much money Tyson can generate for himself, King, the MGM Grand, and Showtime (SET), which will broadcast his performances. You can be sure the former champion's early opposition will not be of earth-shaking quality. Everybody wants a piece of Tyson, in the ring or in the counting house, and King can't be too careful early on. A loss or a poor performance would disrupt the best-laid plans of the powers-that-be.

Mike, we wish you well. At the same time, we'll be scrutinizing your every move and making fair and objective assessments. At least in this corner, emotion has indeed been checked at the turnstiles. ■

WORLDWIDE RATINGS

The ratings of the three major governing bodies recognized by THE RING are supplied by the organizations themselves. They are updated on these pages as soon as they are made available to us. In this issue, the WBA ratings were compiled as of February 1995, the WBC ratings were compiled as of March 1995, and the IBF ratings were compiled as of April 1995.

HEAVYWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Oliver McCall (USA)	C	–	–
George Foreman (USA)	–	C	C
Tony Tucker (USA)	1	1	1
Lennox Lewis (GB)	2	7	6
Lionel Butler (USA)	3	4	12
Bruce Seldon (USA)	4	2	2
Joe Hipp (USA)	5	5	5
Henry Akinwande (GB)	6	8	9
Jorge Luis Gonzalez (CUBA)	7	–	10
Larry Holmes (USA)	8	–	–
Frank Bruno (GB)	9	–	–
Frans Botha (SA)	10	3	4
Michael Moorer (USA)	14	6	3
Peter McNeeley (USA)	12	9	–
Tim Witherspoon (USA)	21	10	–
Buster Mathis (USA)	22	–	7
Corrie Sanders (SA)	16	–	8

CRUISERWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Anaclet Wamba (FRA)	C	–	–
Orlin Norris (USA)	–	C	–
Alfred Cole (USA)	–	–	C
Carl Thompson (GB)	1	4	4
Robert Daniels (USA)	2	6	12
Akim Tafer (FRA)	3	5	5
Dennis Andries (GB)	4	–	–
Alexander Gurov (UKR)	5	3	6
Marcelo Dominguez (ARG)	6	–	–
Arthur Williams (USA)	7	–	10
Mark Randazzo (USA)	8	12	–
Norbert Ekassi (CAM)	9	7	–
Nate Miller (USA)	10	10	3
Adolpho Washington (USA)	–	1	–
Sergei Kobozev (RUS)	–	2	2
Marcelo Figueroa (ARG)	17	8	–
Przemyslaw Saleta (POL)	–	9	–
Uriah Grant (USA)	–	–	1
Torsten May (GER)	13	–	7
Andre Purlet (GUY)	–	–	8
John Andrade (USA)	26	–	9

LT. HEAVYWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Mike McCallum (USA)	C	–	–
Virgil Hill (USA)	–	C	–
Henry Maske (GER)	–	–	C
Fabrice Tiozzo (FRA)	1	2	–
Eric Nicoletta (FRA)	2	4	–
Jeff Harding (AUSTRL)	3	–	3
Gary Delaney (GB)	4	12	–
Montell Griffin (USA)	5	–	4
Frank Tate (USA)	6	5	–
Christophe Girard (FRA)	7	–	–
Merqui Sosa (DR)	8	–	–
Ginger Tshabalala (SA)	9	–	–
Jose Gomez (BRA)	10	6	–
Wang Sup Lee (KOR)	26	1	–
Michael Nunn (USA)	–	3	2
Eddy Smulders (HOLL)	–	7	–
Duran Williams (USA)	–	8	1
Drake Thadzi (CAN)	–	9	–
Lou Del Valle (USA)	24	10	–
James Toney (USA)	15	–	5
Egerton Marcus (CAN)	–	–	6
William Guthrie (USA)	–	–	7
Greg Everett (USA)	–	–	8
Graciano Rocchigiani (GER)	–	–	9
Anthony Hembrick (USA)	19	–	10

SUPER MIDDLEWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Nigel Benn (GB)	C	–	–
Frank Liles (USA)	–	C	–
Roy Jones (USA)	–	–	C
Frederic Seiller (FRA)	1	4	5
Graziano Rocchigiani (GER)	2	10	–
Tony Byrd (USA)	3	1	–
Thulane Malinga (SA)	4	12	–
Cornelius Carr (GB)	5	–	–
Tim Littles (USA)	6	2	4
Steve Little (USA)	7	8	–
Mauro Galvano (ITA)	8	–	–
Michael Nunn (USA)	9	–	–
Luciano Torres (BRA)	10	5	–
Mauricio Amaral (BRA)	30	3	–
Vinny Pazienza (USA)	–	6	–
Zafarou Ballogou (TOGO)	–	7	–
Byun Gin Kang (KOR)	18	9	–
Lonnie Bradley (USA)	–	–	2
Tony Thornton (USA)	20	11	–
Frank Nicotra (FRA)	–	–	–
Gary Ballard (SA)	–	–	–
Darrin Allen (USA)	–	–	–
Juan Gimenez (PAR)	–	–	3

MIDDLEWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Vacant	C	–	–
Jorge Castro (ARG)	–	C	–
Agostino Cardamone (ITA)	1	9	–
Julian Jackson (USA)	2	8	–
Richie Woodhall (GB)	3	–	–
Quincy Taylor (USA)	4	5	–
Lonnie Bradley (USA)	5	–	–
Joe Lipsey (USA)	6	11	–
Reggie Johnson (USA)	7	1	–
Silvio Branco (ITA)	8	–	–
Neville Brown (GB)	9	–	–
Shinji Takehara (JAP)	10	4	–
Peter Venancio (BRA)	–	2	–
Segundo Mercado (ECU)	–	3	–
William Joppy (USA)	26	6	–
Bernard Hopkins (USA)	–	7	–
John David Jackson (USA)	12	10	–
Miguel Viloria (COL)	–	–	1

JR. MIDDLEWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Luis Santana (DR)	C	–	–
Julio Cesar Vasquez (ARG)	5	C	–
Vincent Pettway (USA)	–	–	C
Terry Norris (USA)	1	12	–
Julio Cesar Green (USA)	2	2	–
Laurent Boudouani (FRA)	3	3	–
Bronco McKart (USA)	4	7	–
Robert McCracken (GB)	6	5	–
Javier Castillejo (SPA)	7	8	–
Carl Daniels (USA)	8	1	–
Paul Vaden (USA)	9	–	–
Winky Wright (USA)	10	4	–
Buddy McGirt (USA)	–	6	–
Paul Vaden (USA)	–	9	–
Darrin Morris (USA)	–	10	–
Gianfranco Rosi (ITA)	–	–	–
Keith Holmes (USA)	24	–	–
Raul Marquez (USA)	19	–	–
Rossman Henry (COL)	–	–	–
Simon Brown (USA)	–	11	–

WELTERWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Pernell Whitaker (USA)	C	–	–
Ike Quartey (GHA)	–	C	–
Felix Trinidad (PR)	–	–	C
Gary Jacobs (GB)	1	2	–
Larry Barnes (USA)	2	3	–
Andrew Murray (GUY)	3	1	–
Wilfredo Rivera (PR)	4	6	–
David Gonzalez (USA)	5	12	–
Buddy McGirt (USA)	6	–	–
Crisanto Espana (VEN)	7	5	–
Lonnie Smith (USA)	8	–	–
Jose Luis Navarro (SPA)	9	11	–
Oba Carr (USA)	10	7	–
Derrell Coley (USA)	11	4	–
Andrey Pestryaev (RUS)	17	8	–
Yori Boy Campas (MEX)	–	9	–
Jung Oh Park (KOR)	–	10	–
Roger Turner (USA)	–	–	–
James Hughes (USA)	–	–	–

JR. WELTERWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Julio Cesar Chavez (MEX)	C	–	–
Frankie Randall (USA)	–	C	–

Tsuya Tszyu (AUSTRL)	–	–	C
David Kamau (USA)	1	3	2
Bergman (SA)	2	6	6
Pineda (COL)	3	4	1
Coggi (ARG)	4	2	–
Giovanni Parisi (ITA)	5	9	3
Tyson (USA)	6	11	4
Rahilou (FRA)	7	1	–
Chaves (ARG)	8	–	–
Hale (GB)	9	12	–
Sakamoto (JAP)	10	–	–
Ladd (USA)	–	5	5
Scott (USA)	–	7	–
Jacobsen (DEN)	19	8	–
Thobela (SA)	–	10	–
Rodriguez (USA)	26	–	7
Oliveira (USA)	16	–	8
Padilla (COL)	–	–	9
Sauli (ITA)	–	–	10

LIGHTWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Angel Gonzalez (MEX)	C	–	–
Nazarov (JAP)	–	C	–
Ruelas (USA)	–	–	C
Julio (COL)	1	1	1
Baptist Mendy (FRA)	2	–	8
Johnson (USA)	3	3	5
Marchena (MEX)	4	–	9
Silva (ARG)	5	–	–
Mosley (USA)	6	–	–
Jakubowski (USA)	7	–	–
Cervera (COL)	8	–	–
Tejeda (ARG)	9	–	–
Johnston (USA)	10	–	12
Tejeda (ARG)	–	2	–
Sakamoto (JAP)	–	4	–
Taroreh (INDO)	22	5	–
Lawal (DEN)	16	6	–
Holiday (SA)	11	7	2
Gamache (USA)	25	8	–
Park (KOR)	–	9	–
Canoy (PHIL)	–	10	–
Molina (PR)	–	–	3
Lark (USA)	–	–	4
Robinson (USA)	12	12	6
Marimon (COL)	–	–	7
Palacios (COL)	–	–	10

JR. LIGHTWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Gabriel Ruelas (USA)	C	–	–
Genaro Hernandez (USA)	–	C	–
Vacant	–	–	C
Ammah Nelson (GHA)	1	3	5
Dimitry Alexandrov (RUS)	2	6	11
Ed Hopson (USA)	3	4	2
Jesse James Leija (USA)	4	7	6
Derrick Johnson (TRIN)	5	8	–
Arturo Gatti (USA)	6	–	3
Jimmy Garcia (COL)	7	5	–
Chang Soo Choi (KOR)	8	2	–
Mbulelo Mhlope (SA)	9	–	–
Harold Warren (USA)	10	–	–
Oscar Hugo Paz (ARG)	–	1	–
Boyd Havard (GB)	18	9	–
Brahim Yoma (FRA)	19	10	–
Moises Pedroza (COL)	–	–	1
Wilson Rodriguez (DR)	–	–	4
Hernan Gutierrez (COL)	–	–	7
Victor Rangel (COL)	–	–	8
Boris Sinitsin (RUS)	12	–	9
Carmelo Locarno (COL)	–	–	10

FEATHERWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Alejandro Gonzalez (MEX)	C	–	–
Javier Rojas (VEN)	–	C	–
Kevin Johnson (USA)	–	–	C
Javier Soto (MEX)	1	7	–
Kevin Kelley (USA)	2	8	4
Javier Beleno (COL)	3	3	1
Luis Badillo (PR)	4	6	7
Gary Patterson (USA)	5	–	–
Hector Lizarraga (USA)	6	–	6
Tracy Green (USA)	7	–	2
Eric Saguid (PHIL)	8	9	–
Carlos Rios (ARG)	9	–	–
Louie Espinoza (USA)	10	–	–
Yung Kyun Park (KOR)	–	1	–
Miguel Arrozal (PHIL)	–	2	3
Orlando Soto (PAN)	13	4	9
Luis Mendoza (COL)	–	5	–
Francisco Segura (USA)	18	10	8
Victor Polo (COL)	26	–	5
Daniel Zaragoza (MEX)	–	–	10

JR. FEATHERWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Hector Acero-Sanchez (DR)	C	–	–
Wilfredo Vasquez (PR)	–	C	–
Vuyani Bungu (SA)	–	–	C
Julio Gervacio (DR)	1	7	6
Daniel Zaragoza (MEX)	2	–	–
Jesus Salud (USA)	3	10	7
Frank Toledo (USA)	4	12	10
Reynaldo Hurtado (COL)	5	–	–
Eddie Croft (USA)	6	–	–
Jesse Benavides (USA)	7	–	–
Juan Polo Perez (COL)	8	11	–
Enrique Jupiter (MEX)	9	–	–
Maui Diaz (USA)	10	–	9
Antonio Cermeno (VEN)	–	1	–
Arnulfo Romero (PAN)	–	2	–
Ramon Guzman (VEN)	17	3	–
Orlando Canizales (USA)	–	4	4
Naseem Hamed (GB)	–	5	–
Yuichi Kasai (JAP)	12	6	–
Junior Jones (USA)	–	8	–
Tsuyoshi Harada (JAP)	–	9	–
Pablo Ozuna (COL)	–	–	1
Welcome Ncita (SA)	–	–	2
Kennedy McKinney (USA)	13	–	3
Nurhuda (INDO)	–	–	5
Victor Llerena (COL)	–	–	8

BANTAMWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Yasuei Yakushiji (JAP)	C	–	–
Daorung Chuvatana (THAI)	–	C	–
Harold Mestre (COL)	–	–	C
Wayne McCullough (IRE)	1	8	4
Joichiro Tatsuyoshi (JAP)	2	5	–
Naseem Hamed (GB)	3	–	3
Nana Konadu (GHA)	4	6	–
Khaoyai Mahasarakam (THAI)	5	–	7
Roberto Moran (ARG)	6	–	–
Victor Rabanales (MEX)	7	–	–
John Armour (GB)	8	11	8
Cuauhtemoc Gomez (MEX)	9	12	–
Dong Chuen Lee (KOR)	10	9	–
Yong Hoon Lee (KOR)	–	1	–
Johnny Bredahl (DEN)	–	2	–
Jorge Julio (COL)	15	3	10
Abraham Torres (VEN)	22	4	–
John Michael Johnson (USA)	12	7	–
Lukhin CP Gym (THAI)	21	10	–
Sergio Reyes (USA)	18	–	1
Mbuelo Botile (SA)	25	–	2
Juvenal Berrio (COL)	–	–	5
Rafael Del Valle (PR)	–	–	6
John Lowey (GB)	–	–	9

JR. BANTAMWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Hiroshi Kawashima (JAP)	C	–	–
Hyung Chul Lee (KOR)	–	C	–
Harold Grey (COL)	–	–	C
Cecilio Espino (MEX)	1	9	–
Danny Romero (USA)	2	6	–
Jose Luis Bueno (MEX)	3	–	–
Joel Luna Zarate (MEX)	4	–	6
Gerry Penalosa (PHIL)	5	3	–
Johnny Bredahl (DEN)	6	–	–
Luis Bolano (COL)	7	–	–
Seung Koo Lee (KOR)	8	5	–
Satoshi Iida (JAP)	9	2	–
Julio Borboa (MEX)	10	–	1
Alimi Goitia (VEN)	21	1	–
David Griman (VEN)	11	4	–
Ernie Cataluna (PHIL)	–	7	–
Julio Gamboa Blanco (NIC)	–	8	–
Sol Ploenchit (PAN)	–	10	–
Jaji Sibali (SA)	–	–	2
Jose Diaz (USA)	24	–	3
Ratanachai Sor Voraphin (THAI)	–	–	4
Orlando Tobon (COL)	–	–	5
Cesar Singo (EQU)	–	–	7
Rodolfo Blanco (COL)	–	–	8
Ubadel Soto (COL)	–	–	9
Domingo Sosa (DR)	16	–	10

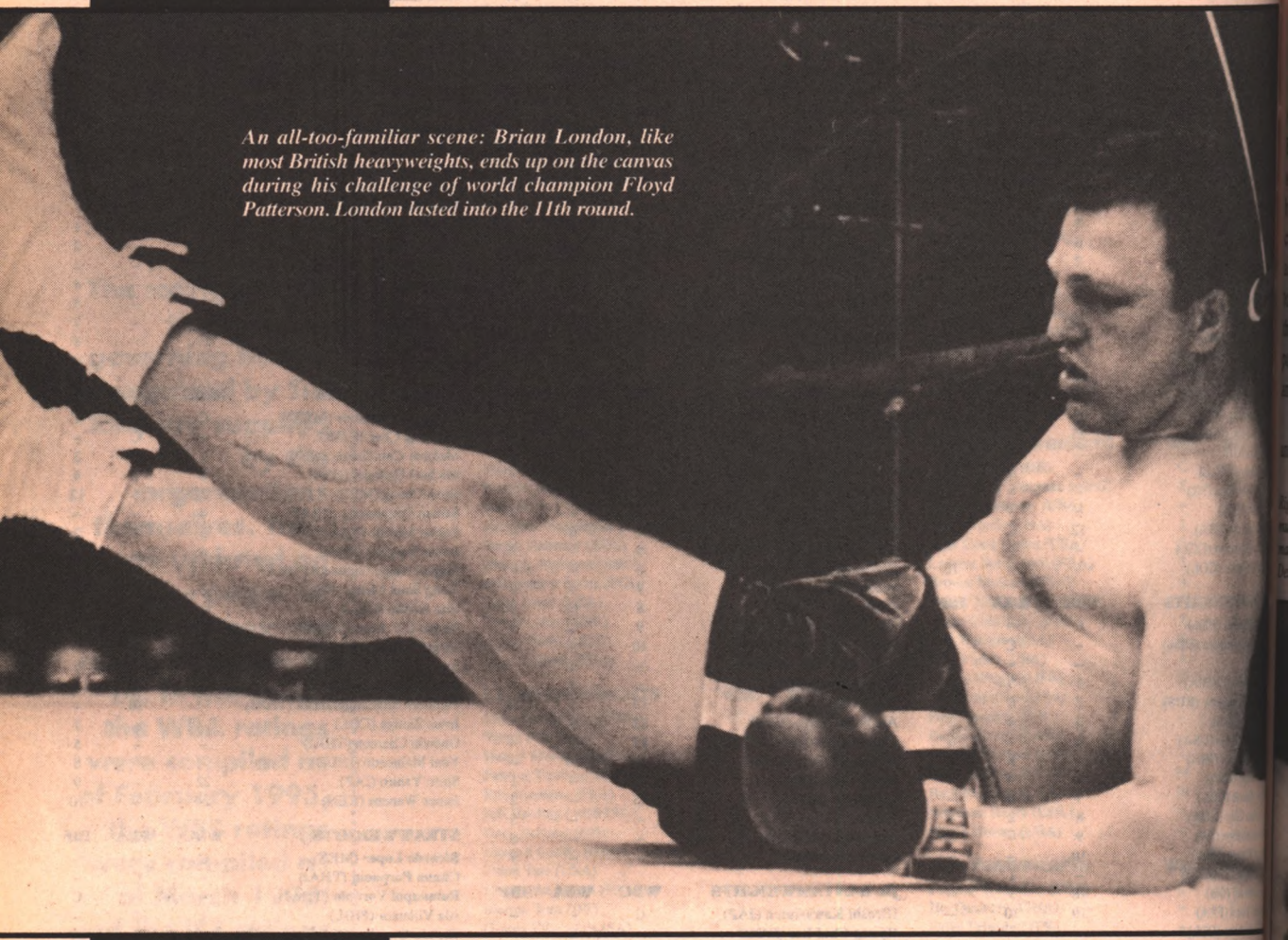
FLYWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Yuri Arbachakov (RUS)	C	–	–
San Sor Ploenchit (THAI)	–	C	–
Francisco Tejedor (COL)	–	–	C
Chatchai Elite-Gym (THAI)	1	–	–
Mark Johnson (USA)	2	–	6
Hugo Soto (ARG)	3	–	–
Miguel Martinez (MEX)	4	–	12
Oscar Arciniega (MEX)	5	–	–
Isaias Zamudio (USA)	6	10	–
Jesus Zuniga (COL)	7	–	–
Chokchai 3-K Battery (THAI)	8	6	–
Raul Rios (MEX)	9	–	–
Enrique Orozco (MEX)	10	–	–
Evangelino Perez (PAN)	24	1	–
Alvaro Mercado (COL)	–	2	–
Leo Gamez (VEN)	–	3	–
Hiroki Ioka (JAP)	20	4	–
Robbie Regan (GB)	11	5	9
Aquiles Guzman (VEN)	23	7	–
Yong Soon Chang (KOR)	–	8	–
Sung Tae Lim (KOR)	–	9	–
Ferid Ben Jeddou (TUN)	17	12	1
Danny Romero (USA)	–	–	2
Chatchai Sasakul (THAI)	–	–	3
Yokthai Sithoar (THAI)	–	–	4
Abdi Pohan (INDO)	–	–	5
Jose Luis Zepeda (MEX)	–	–	7
Luis Benavidez (COL)	19	–	8
Arthur Johnson (USA)	–	–	10

JR. FLYWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Chiquita Gonzalez (MEX)	C	–	C
Hi Yong Choi (KOR)	–	C	–
Melchor Cob Castro (MEX)	1	8	3
Michael Carbajal (USA)	2	2	4
Jesus Chong (MEX)	3	6	12
Saman Sorjaturong (THAI)	4	–	–
Carlos Murillo (PAN)	5	1	2
Javier Varguez (MEX)	6	–	–
Miguel Angel Granados (MEX)	7	–	–
Yong Soon Chang (KOR)	8	–	–
Eric Griffin (USA)	9	7	6
Hadao C.P. Gym (THAI)	10	5	–
Virgilio Chifundo (PAN)	25	3	–
Yuichi Hosono (JAP)	11	4	7
Puma Kanehira (MEX)	–	9	–
Pichitnoi Sithbangprachan (THAI)	–	10	–
Jesus Zuniga (COL)	–	–	1
Onewin Chareon (THAI)	–	–	5
Yani Malhendo (INDO)	–	–	8
Shiro Yahiro (JAP)	22	–	9
James Wanene (KEN)	24	–	10

STRAWWEIGHTS	WBC	WBA	IBF
Ricardo Lopez (MEX)	C	–	–
Chana Porpaoin (THAI)	–	C	–
Ratanapol Vorapin (THAI)	–	–	C
Ala Villamor (PHIL)	1	2	–
Kermin Guardia (COL)	2	3	–
Andy Tabanas (PHIL)	3	4	–
Rocky Lin (JAP)	4	–	11
Osvaldo Guerrero (MEX)	5	7	–
Songkram Porpaoin (THAI)	6	8	–
Shinichi Tamaki (JAP)	7	10	–
Joma Gamboa (PHIL)	8	–	3
Seo Kjin Yang (KOR)	9	9	–
Yodsing Saengmorokot (THAI)	10	–	–
Rosendo Alvarez (NIC)	19	1	4
Jin Ho Kim (KOR)	–	5	–
Saman Sorjaturong (THAI)	–	6	–
Mauricio Pastrana (COL)	–	–	1
Oscar Flores (COL)	–	–	2
Ernesto Rubillar (PHIL)	–	–	5
Pichitnoi Sithbangprachan (THAI)	12	–	6
Surachai Saengmorokot (THAI)	–	–	7
Dominggus (INDO)	–	–	8
Jack Russell (AUSTRL)	21	–	9
Rafael Torres (USA)	–	–	10

CLASSIC

BRITAIN'S HORIZONTAL HEAVYWEIGHTS



An all-too-familiar scene: Brian London, like most British heavyweights, ends up on the canvas during his challenge of world champion Floyd Patterson. London lasted into the 11th round.

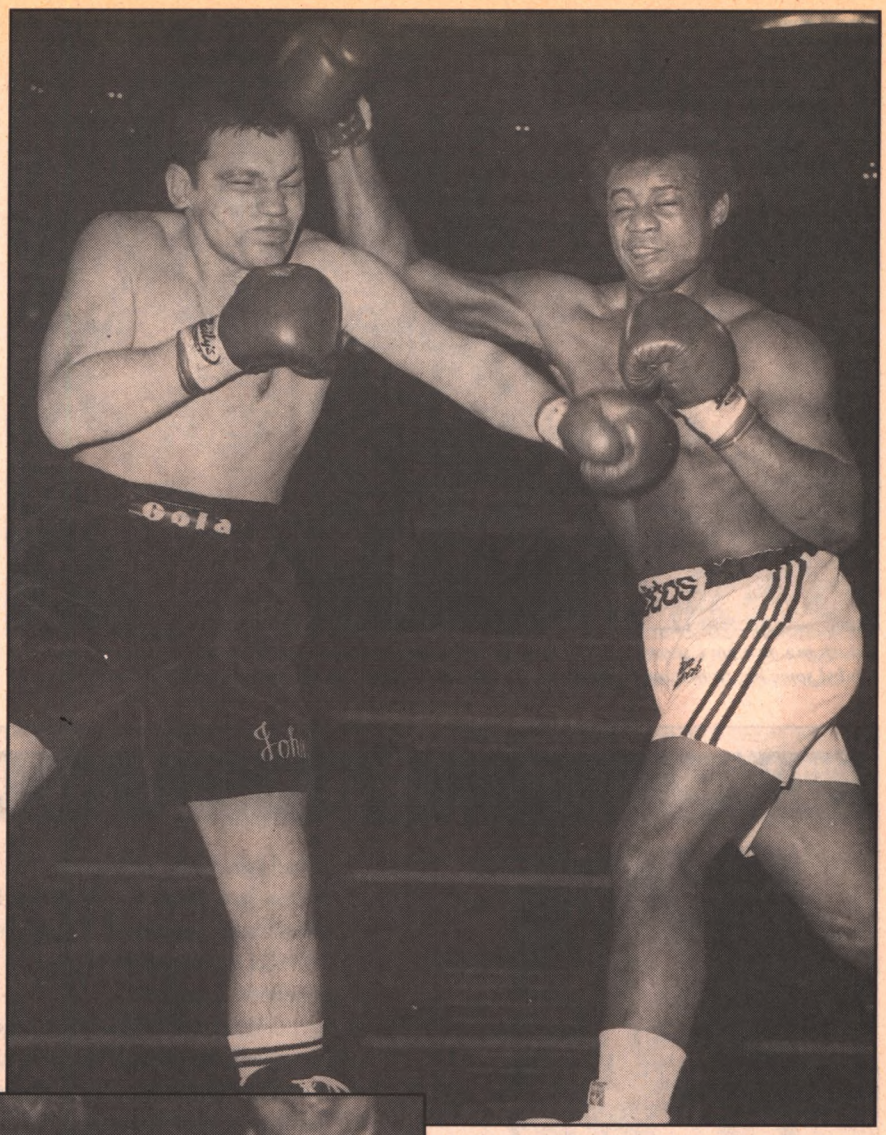
Figg Leaves Us A Great Tradition

From The Ring, August 1982

By Harry Mullan

Having invented the bloody sport, you'd think the Brits would do better in boxing—especially heavyweight boxing, the only division back when men were men and knuckles were bare—than they do. Sad to say, such is not the case. In fact, most of us were only genetic possibilities when they last had more than mere token representation amongst the top echelons of the heavys. Having won the battles of the Falklands, Britain is now trying to once again get back into "The Battle Of The Heavyweights." No mean task. The Battle of the Heavys started with the ubiquitous Mickey Duff, who has performed for British boxing what General Ross did in the War of 1812: alter the balance between Britain and America in the Brits' favor. The fact that he accomplished this singular feat by importing assorted milkmen, bus drivers, and supermarket shelf-loaders as cannon-fodder for Joe Bugner, John L. Gardner, and currently Frank Bruno is of no consequence to the purely statistically minded. Unfortunately, though, statistics don't count for all, and those particular statistics have no bearing on the balance of power in world heavyweight boxing.

A truer picture of the position was given by an aging, balding American of modest accom-



Right: No wonder British heavyweights have so much trouble: As evidenced by this June 1977 match between prospect John L. Gardner and Derrick Ruddock, they fight with their eyes closed.

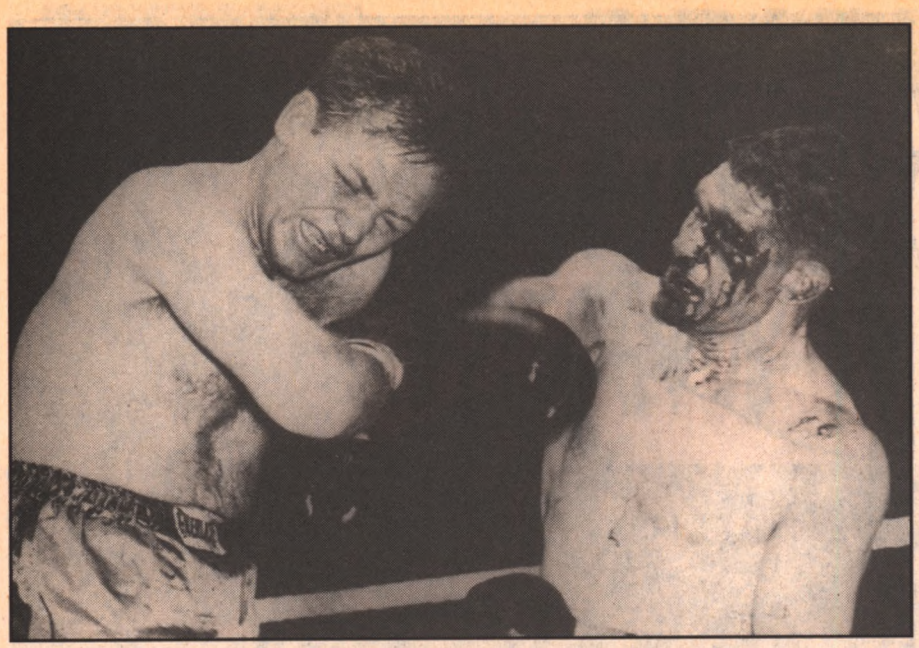
Left: Despite this postfight scene, Tommy Farr wasn't one of the British heavyweights who ended up horizontal. The Welshman went 15 tough rounds with world champion Joe Louis in 1937.

plishments, Leroy Boone, who came to London's Albert Hall in December to trounce another aged, almost bald heavy of even more modest accomplishment, Neville Meade.

Meade was making his first appearance as British heavyweight champion, and his abysmal performance then, and in a subsequent win over a six-fight American novice, Ricky Kellar, speaks volumes on the quality of the 43—count 'em—other "contenders" in the latest British rankings.

Our three best prospects are Bruno, Rudi Pika, and Funso Banjo. Pika is half-Estonian, Bruno is West Indian (though born in London), and Banjo, even more exotically, is the son of a Nigerian tribal chief.

The only genuine Brit to reign since the revered Henry Cooper quit 11 years ago was the



British big men have shown the ability to lose on both sides of the pond. In 1950, Bruce Woodcock landed some big right hands against Lee Savold, but lost on cuts after four rounds.

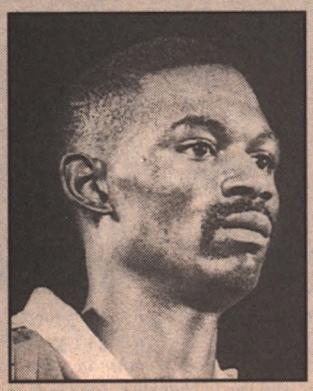
big southpaw from Bradford, Richard Du... Dunn earned his short-lived shot at Muham... Ali in 1976 by beating a series of remarkab... obscure Yanks. Would all of you who remem... Ron Oliver, Larry Renaud, Rufus Brassell, Jo... Griffin, Larry Beilfuss, or Terry Krueger plea... hold up your hands? To be fair, Dunn al... whipped some good journeymen like R... Patterson, Roy Williams, and Obie English, a... lasted into the eighth against Jimmy Young.

Richard, of course, was following the wel... trodden path of Joe Bugner a few years pre... ously. Bugner's buildup included wins ov... such legendary household names as Mi... Harrell, Phil Smith, Charlie Polite, Ed... Talhami, Marc Hand, and Brian O'Mell... households obviously unknown even to the te... phone company.

Until his first retirement after his fi... against Ron Lyle in March 1977, Bugner's sc... against North American foes was 23-5-1. Ad...

THE RING RATINGS, August 1982

*WBA Champion **WBC Champion



Jeff Chandler

HEAVYWEIGHTS
World Champ: Larry Holmes, Easton, PA**

1. **Mike Weaver***, Los Angeles, CA
2. **Michael Dokes**, Akron, OH
3. **Trevor Berbick**, Canada
4. **Greg Page**, Louisville, KY
5. **Gerrie Coetzee**, South Africa
6. **Gerry Cooney**, Huntington, NY
7. **James (Quick) Tillis**, Chicago, IL
8. **Randall (Tex) Cobb**, Philadelphia, PA
9. **Tim Witherspoon**, Philadelphia, PA
10. **Renaldo Snipes**, Yonkers, NY

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHTS
World Champ: Dwight Braxton, Camden, NJ**

1. **Michael Spinks***, St. Louis, MO
2. **Matthew Saad Muhammad**, Philadelphia, PA
3. **Eddie Mustafa Muhammad**, Brooklyn, NY
4. **Carlos DeLeon**, Puerto Rico
5. **Eddie Davis**, Freeport, NY
6. **Jerry Celestine**, New Orleans, LA
7. **Johnny Davis**, Hempstead, NY
8. **James Scott**, Rahway, NJ
9. **Marvin Johnson**, Indianapolis, IN
10. **S T Gordon**, Las Vegas, NV

MIDDLEWEIGHTS
World Champ: Marvin Hagler, Brockton, MA

1. **Tony Sibson**, England
2. **Frank Fletcher**, Philadelphia, PA
3. **Mustafa Hamsho**, Syria
4. **Dwight Davison**, Detroit, MI
5. **Fulgencio Obelmejias**, Venezuela
6. **Thomas Hearns**, Detroit, MI
7. **Ray Seales**, Tacoma, WA
8. **James Green**, Irvington, NJ
9. **Bernard Mays**, Detroit, MI
10. **Alex Ramos**, Bronx, NY

JUNIOR MIDDLEWEIGHTS
World Champ: Ray Leonard, Palmer Park, MD

1. **Wilfred Benitez****, Puerto Rico
2. **Ayub Kalule**, Uganda
3. **Tony Ayala Jr.**, San Antonio, TX
4. **Carlos Herrera**, Argentina
5. **Davey Moore***, New York, NY
6. **Charlie Weir**, South Africa
7. **Gary Guiden**, Muncie, IN
8. **Roberto Duran**, Panama
9. **Clint Jackson**, Nashville, TN
10. **Mike McCallum**, New York, NY

WELTERWEIGHTS
World Champ: Ray Leonard, Palmer Park, MD

1. **Thomas Hearns**, Detroit, MI
2. **Roger Stafford**, Philadelphia, PA
3. **Pipino Cuevas**, Mexico
4. **Milton McCrory**, Detroit, MI
5. **Donald Curry**, Ft. Worth, TX
6. **Kevin Howard**, Philadelphia, PA
7. **Colin Jones**, England
8. **Bobby Joe Young**, Steubenville, OH
9. **Marlon Starling**, Hartford, CT
10. **Mauricio Bravo**, Venezuela

JUNIOR WELTERWEIGHTS
World Champ: Aaron Pryor*, Cincinnati, OH

1. **Saoul Mamby****, New York, NY
2. **Dujuan Johnson**, Detroit, MI
3. **Johnny Bumphus**, Nashville, TN
4. **Jo Kimpuani**, France

his recent three-round accordion-style col-
e at the hands of the anything-but-up-and-
ing Earnie Shavers and you have the perfect
ure of the perennial British heavyweight.

Of our three current hopefuls, only one, the
ry Lawless-managed Bruno, has faced
erican opposition, if that be the correct word
se in such a context. The former amateur
mp made his pro debut against a Tex-Mex
t heavy called Lupe Guerra, who must have
n diver's boots at the weigh-in to scale his
ially announced 182 pounds. Lupe's perfor-
ce was more coyote than wolf, as he prac-
three perfect swan dives to the canvas, one
e practiced than the next, to be counted out
the first.

A second-round stoppage of Harvey
chen, a Reno casino guard, gave Bruno his
nd win. But Harvey's two-knockdown
t was merely a prologue for what followed.
what followed was Tom Stephenson, billed

Is heavyweight champion Rocky Marciano informing challenger Don Cockell of his fate? The Rock was too much of a gentleman to have done that. But in 1955, he crushed the Englishman in the ninth round.

Leroy Haley, Las Vegas, NV
Steve Hearon, Houston, TX
Miguel Montilla, Dominican Republic
Ronnie Shields, Port Arthur, TX
Billy Costello, Kingston, NY
Willie Rodriguez, Allentown, PA

TWEIGHTS
Champ: Alexis Arguello**
ragua
Aaron Pryor, Cincinnati, OH
Ray Mancini*, Youngstown, OH
Edwin Rosario, Puerto Rico
Art Frias, Los Angeles, CA
Howard Davis Jr., Glen Cove, NY
Gonzallo Montellano, Bakersfield, CA
Hilmer Kenty, Detroit, MI
Rodolfo (Gato) Gonzalez, Mexico
Ernesto Espana, Venezuela
Claude Noel, Trinidad

R LIGHTWEIGHTS
Champ: Samuel Serrano*,
Rico
rnelius Boza-Edwards, England
win Rosario, Puerto Rico
fael (Bazooka) Limon**, Mexico
lando Navarette, Honolulu, HI
bby Chacon, Pacoima, CA
tsune Uehara, Japan

7. Johnny Sato, Stockton, CA
8. John Verderosa, Staten Island, NY
9. Idelfonso Bethelmy, Venezuela
10. Carlos Pinango, Venezuela

FEATHERWEIGHTS
World Champ: Salvador Sanchez, Mexico**

1. Eusebio Pedroza*, Panama
2. Wilfredo Gomez, Puerto Rico
3. Juan LaPorte, New York, NY
4. Rocky Lockridge, Paterson, NJ
5. Mario Miranda, Colombia
6. Ruben Castillo, Bakersfield, CA
7. Pat Cowdell, England
8. Roberto Rubaldino, Mexico
9. Jose Caba, Dominican Republic
10. Paul Ferrari, Australia

JUNIOR FEATHERWEIGHTS
World Champ: Wilfredo Gomez, Puerto Rico**

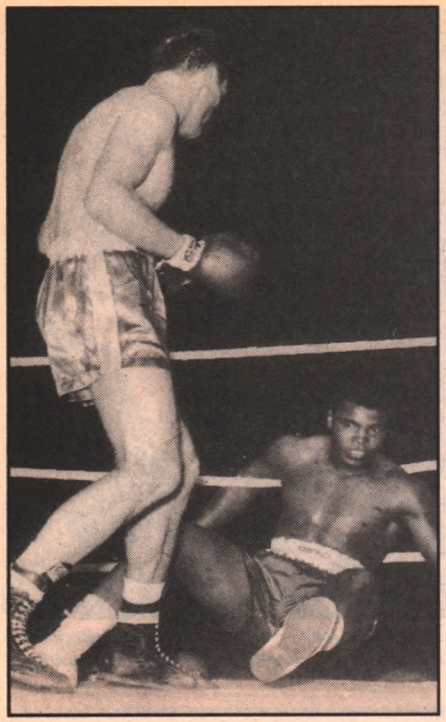
1. Leo Cruz*, Dominican Republic
2. Jaime Garza, Los Angeles, CA
3. Mike Ayala, San Antonio, TX
4. Sergio Palma, Argentina
5. Ricardo Cardona, Colombia
6. Lupe Pintor, Mexico
7. Roberto Rubaldino, Mexico
8. Juan (Kid) Meza, Los Angeles, CA
9. Soon Hyun Chung, South Korea
10. Nicky Perez, Tucson, AZ

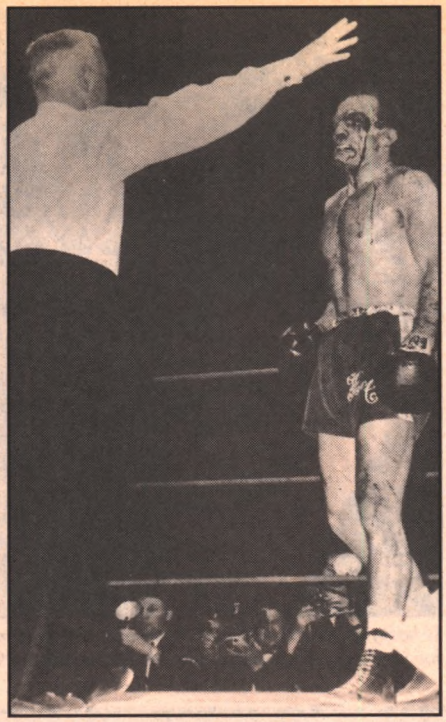
BANTAMWEIGHTS
World Champ: Jeff Chandler*
Philadelphia, PA

1. Lupe Pintor**, Mexico
2. Chul Ho Kim, South Korea
3. Kiko Bejines, Mexico
4. Albert Davila, Los Angeles, CA
5. Oscar Muniz, Los Angeles, CA
6. Eijiro Murata, Japan
7. Johnny Carter, Philadelphia, PA
8. Jose R. Narvaez, Argentina
9. Freddie Jackson, Houston, TX
10. Jiro Watanabe, Japan

FLYWEIGHTS
World Champ: Prudencio Cardona, Colombia**

1. Santos Laciar*, Argentina
2. Tadashi Tomori, Japan
3. Katsuo Tokashiki, Japan
4. Amado Ursua, Mexico
5. Hilario Zapata, Panama
6. Juan Herrera, Mexico
7. Antonio Avelar, Mexico
8. Hwan Jin Kim, South Korea
9. Rafael Pedroza, Panama
10. Candido Tellez, Mexico





The most popular British heavyweight in history was Henry Cooper, who humbled Cassius Clay with his patented left hook in the fourth round in 1963 (left). In both that fight and the rematch in 1966 (right), Cooper, one of the greatest bleeders of all-time, was stopped on cuts.

as a "fighter" from Indianapolis, but who might as easily have been practicing for the reenactment of Custer's last stand, for all that it mattered.

Stephenson, who failed to throw a single punch in the 2:25 of the fiasco, retreated to the ropes, cupped his head in his hands, and slid gracefully with his own interpretation of a folding chair gone wrong. He was counted out halfway through an unconvincing attempt to get back into the ring, and subsequently told anyone who'd listen that he had been "confused and homesick."

The British Board of Control took a distinctly unsympathetic view of the goings-on and fined Stephenson his total purse of $1,000. Perhaps they should have fined the matchmaker instead. After all, it wasn't Tom's fault that he couldn't fight, homesick or not.

The overall score in the Britain vs. America matches involving current British heavys (including Bruno) is 6-4-2 in the home side's favor. Meade, Gordon Ferris, Billy Aird, and Neil Malpass made up the home wins, with Aird's record including a highly respectable draw with Jimmy Young. Young, of course, wasn't a world contender at the time. Like most Americans who visit the olde sod, he came as "the opponent," but went unbeaten in three appearances in London against Aird, Dunn, and Les Stevens.

British exports, it must be said, don't often fare as well in the States. Bombardier Billy Wells, 70 years ago, set the fashion by sailing to New York to meet Al Palzer and getting knocked cold in three rounds.

Phil Scott, whom the unimpressed American writers dubbed "Phaintin' Phil," was the next to try his luck in the Colonies. All Phil got for his efforts was his ticket punched in one by Knute Hansen, and he was so upset by the roasting the critics gave him that he was moved to take pen in hand and defend himself: "After all," he wrote in the British trade paper *Boxing*, "I did get up six times."

Scott was back in action three weeks later at New York's St. Nick's, where he knocked out a well-regarded young American, Monte Munn, in 10 rounds. He closed out 1927 with a controversial points loss to Johnny Risko. Scott scored a couple of decision wins in the States in 1928 over Pierre Charles and Roberto Robertie, and then, in 1929, launched his campaign for Gene Tunney's vacated title.

A solid win over the giant Argentine Vittorio Campolo earned him a berth in the elimination contest against Otto Von Porat, who in the second round became one of the six men Scott defeated by the brilliantly simple tactic of clutching his groin, shouting "foul," and sitting on the canvas until the referee took notice of his imitation of a fish out of water.

Phil tried the same horizontal histrionics in the final eliminator against Jack Sharkey, who really did hit him low but got away with it. Referee Lou Magnolia presumably reasoned that Scott had cried wolf—and foul—one too many times.

(Ironically, Scott might have made it a hat trick had Magnolia not turned a blind eye to Sharkey's misdemeanors. For that very same year, 1931, Sharkey hit Max Schmeling in the same spot when they met for the vacant title, and Max became the only man to be crowned heavyweight champ while sitting on the floor clutching his privates.)

Gritty Tommy Farr not only astounded the boxing world by staying upright for 15 unfortunate rounds against Joe Louis in Louis' first title defense in 1937, but he added the only bright spot for Britain as the sun rapidly set on its boxing empire. But though "Tiger Thammy" from Tonypandy was probably Britain's best-ever heavyweight, he never won a fight in the States, losing successive decisions to Jim Braddock, Max Baer, Lou Nova, and Al Burman, in addition to Louis. Farr had beaten Baer in London in 1937, and outscored Baer in a London rematch in '39, but he's remembered more as the epitome of the "good loser" because of those five American defeats in a row.

Bruce Woodcock was the best of Farr's successors, but his trip abroad was no less disastrous than most of the others. Tami Mauriello kayoed him in five rounds in New York in 1946, writing "finis" to his unbeaten streak of 24 in a row—23 of which were foreshortened—and ending his hopes of a shot at the world title.

Bruce beat his share of Yanks, though including a few good ones like Gus Lesnevich and Lee Savold. He also kayoed Lee Oma, whose the American's performance was so dreadful that a London tabloid headlined its report of the fight "Oma Coma Aroma."

A shocking defeat by Joe Baksi virtually finished Woodcock as a class heavyweight, although he went on to lose to Savold in 1950 was recognized, curiously, in Britain as a for the "vacant" world heavyweight title Louis having just retired. At this time Solomons was the king of British boxing, his massive open-air shows usually featuring American imports. The local lads no longer needed to go to the States for recognition—big money was at home, and the American heavys came here to earn it.

There was still the odd adventurous who tried his luck in America. Johnny Williams stopped Jimmy Rouse in eight rounds in

in 1952, but was baffled by the unorthodox style of Tommy (Hurricane) Jackson on his return visit.

Don Cockell, who took Williams' British title from him in 1953, is remembered in America only as the roly-poly little guy whom Rocky Marciano manhandled for nine rounds in the last heavyweight title bout between two Caucasians. But Cockell traveled twice to Seattle to face Harry (Kid) Matthews, a ranked contender at the time, and licked him twice. For good measure, he also outpointed him in London.

Cockell knocked out respected Americans like Lloyd Marshall and Nick Barone and outpointed Freddie Beshore and Roland LaStarza. That's decent form by any standards and would hardly qualify him for the British horizontal heavyweight hall of fame.

Big Nino Valdes ended Cockell's career with a three-round hammering and then destroyed Don's successor as champion, Joe Erskine, in the first. Erskine was unbeaten in 30 fights, but the giant Cuban continued Britain's sorry heavyweight record.

Brian London, who took Erskine's championship, is regarded in the States as a latter-day Phil Scott in light of his pathetic challenges against Floyd Patterson in 1959 and Muhammad Ali seven years later. A pair of late-career losses in California to Jerry Quarry didn't help either. But that picture is rather less than accurate.

On his night—and he had a few—London wasn't a bad heavyweight at all, despite Ingemar Johansson proclaiming his "sister could beat him." (But then again, did you ever see his sister?) His American victims included Howard Turner, Willie Pastrano (on a cut stoppage), Pete Rademacher, Billy Hunter, Young Jack Johnson, Howard King, Von Clay, Tom McNeeley, Don Warner, Billy Neilson, Chip Johnson, Roger Rischer, Amos Johnson, James J. Woody, and Zora Folley. Balanced against the wins were losses to Pastrano, Valdes, Eddie Machen, Thad Spencer, Roberto Davila, Jim Fletcher, and Jerry Quarry, putting the overall London vs. USA score at 15-10-1.

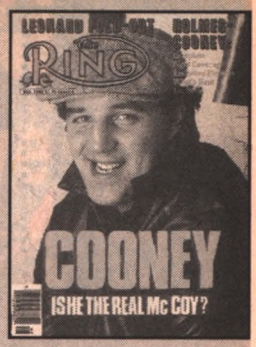
London was much busier against American opposition than his successor, Britain's all-time favorite fight character, Henry Cooper. "Our Henry" had only 17 fights vs. U.S. challengers, winning over Folley, Roy Harris, Alex Miteff, Tony Hughes, Wayne Bethea, Dick Tiger, Chip Johnson, Hubert Hilton, Jeff Davis, and Boston Jacobs. He lost twice to Ali, was crushed in two rounds in a rematch against Folley, was kayoed in four by Floyd Patterson, and was outpointed by Rischer and Amos Johnson.

Mention Jack Bodell to Jerry Quarry and Quarry will probably recall his two-knockdown, one-minute kayo of the Swandlincote southpaw as the easiest win of his career. Yet, oddly, Bodell has the best win percentage against Americans of any recent British champ, 16 of 20, or 80 percent.

Bodell lost the title in his last fight to Dan McAlinden, another with a better than average score against the Yanks. He won 18, drew two, and lost four. The free-swinging Irishman has one other claim to distinction: He went to New York in March 1971, and outpointed Muhammad Ali in a six-rounder on the Frazier-Ali undercard at Madison Square Garden.

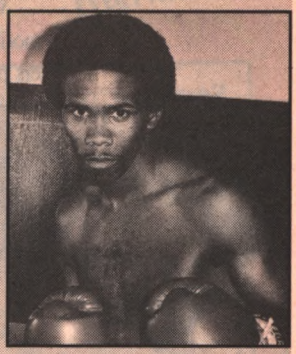
Given the dearth of big-time boxing at what was once the headquarters, and the current sorry state of British heavyweights, McAlinden could well be the last British heavy to whip a Yank at the Garden. The last name on a very, very short list of those who carried the banner of what was once the proudest tradition in boxing—the British heavyweight—one which has now seemingly set. At least for the present. ■

THE RING, August 1982



The Cover: Is Gerry Cooney for real? The cover photo by Kimberly Butler portrays "Gentleman Gerry" as boyish, and on June 11, heavyweight champion Larry Holmes proved too much of a man, rejecting Cooney's bid for the title by 13th-round TKO in Las Vegas.

Boxing's New Capital: In a story titled "A.C. By The Sea," longtime Philadelphia fight scribe Nigel Collins examines the boxing boom on the Boardwalk in Atlantic City. Since the advent of casino boxing, it seems there's a fight card every other night. Pictured: Saad Muhammad vs. John Conteh at Resorts International Hotel in 1980.



All That Glitters ... : Associate Editor Randy Gordon profiles 1976 Olympic gold medalist Howard Davis Jr., who, despite exceptional physical assets, has yet to win a world title as a professional lightweight. As the headline asks, is Davis a lightweight challenger or a lightweight in name alone?

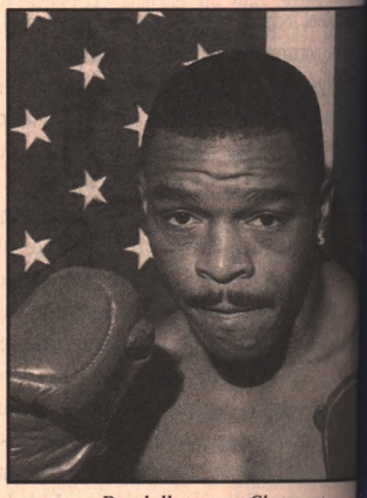
Fight Of The Month: Steel-chinned Mexican Bazooka Limon comes from behind to kayo powerpunching fellow southpaw Rolando Navarette and regain the WBC super featherweight title at the Aladdin Hotel in Las Vegas. A 13-punch flurry late in round 12 drops the Filipino for the count.

Fighter Of The Month: No debate on this issue: Larry Holmes is the unanimous choice. An impressive winner in his long-anticipated defense against the previously undefeated Gerry Cooney, Holmes has finally and firmly established himself as a dominant heavyweight champion.

LOOKING AHEAD

By Steve Farhood

HE AIN'T HEAVY, HE'S A CRUISER



Randall may get Chavez yet

The problem with unifying titles has always been money; for world champions who make six figures per title defense, the rewards don't justify the risk. But there's been talk of a cruiserweight unification between WBA champion Orlin Norris and IBF titlist Al Cole, both of whom want to jump to heavyweight. And, according to Scott Woodworth, who, with Don King, promotes Norris, money shouldn't be an issue.

"We've told [Cole] we'll take that fight anytime, anyplace, anywhere," he told THE RING. "We would take $300,000 to make the deal."

When told of Woodworth's statement, Cole was surprised. "That's not a lot of money," he said. "Orlin's made more than that for some of his defenses."

We can only hope the bout, which is the most attractive matchup the moribund division can offer, materializes. One thing's for sure: Both fighters plan to cash in on the newly Tysonized heavyweight division. Norris, whose walking-around weight is 215-218, contended for the title in the late-'80s before dropping down to 190 pounds. Cole, who stands 6'4", scaled 210 for a non-title fight against [illegible] Dixon (KO 9) on the Roy Jones-Antoine Byrd undercard in March. A mandatory defense against Uriah Grant will likely be his last bout at cruiserweight.

Photo by Teddy Blackburn

King is trying to bring Norris and Cole together

Even with Norris and Cole at the top, the cruiserweight division has produced [illegible] excitement. It will be on life-support, however, without them. A unification match would give one of them the opportunity to move out—and up—with a bang. As Mills Lane would say, "Let's get it on!"

LISTEN UP

The bet of the year: If **Riddick Bowe** defeats **Jorge Luis Gonzalez** on June 17, Dan **Finfrock**, the boss of boxing at the MGM Grand, which promotes the Cuban, must shave his signature mustache. If Gonzalez wins, Bowe must shave his head. We're holding you guys ... Look for **Frankie Randall-Julio Cesar Chavez III** in Mexico sometime this fall. Chavez may may not first meet mandatory challenger **David Kamau** ... Next for WBC super bantamweight champ **Hector Acero-Sanchez** will be perennial contender **Jesse Benavides**, who will drop back down to pounds ... Former WBA middleweight champion **John David Jackson** has signed a promotional with **Don King**.

Las Vegas Hilton

FUTURE FIGHTS

By Art Manteris

VP/Director of Race and Sports Operations, Las Vegas Hilton SuperBook

Favorite	Underdog	Odds	The Skinny
Mike Tyson	Bruce Seldon	7-1	Tyson won't be same, but should handle Sel
Ricardo Lopez	Michael Carbajal	8-5	Lopez still improving, Carbajal isn't
Julio Cesar Chavez	Frankie Randall	3-2	Public will bet Chavez, I like Randall
Oliver McCall	Frank Bruno	5-2	Bruno to come up short again

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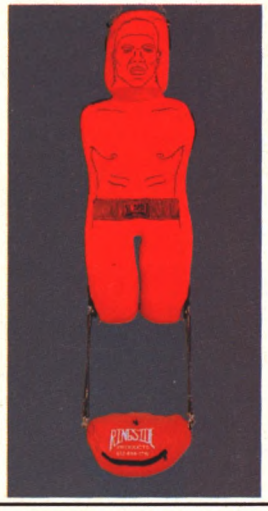

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